



Erasmus+

Our common identity - the future of Europe 29.09 – 11.10.2014

Rhodope Mountain Plovdiv, Bulgaria

The "Our common identity - the future of Europe" is a youth exchange, conceived and realized with the efforts of young people from 6 countries - Czech Republic, Romania, Italy, Spain, Turkey and Bulgaria. The theme of the project, discussed and chosen by all groups of participants is "National Identity and Cultural Diversity - priceless treasure of the United Europe." Other topics will be also discussed: "My country and the European Union", "Tolerance and understanding between religions", "How to start your own small business", "Healthy lifestyle - a better alternative", "Can I be a volunteer?", "Future joint activities and projects "and others.

The main objective of the project is to contribute to knowing each other and development of skills for inter-cultural understanding of young people from six countries with different social status, cultural and religious backgrounds and to increase their knowledge of European citizenship and their interest in participating in joint youth projects and initiatives in the context of the "European Year of Citizens". Sub-objectives are: 1. Social adaptation of disadvantaged youth; 2. Overcoming outdated religious stereotypes and cultural differences 3. Discussing topics of common interest as citizens of Europe 4. Acquisition of knowledge about starting a small business, 5. Initiation of future joint projects.

The whole Italian group will be of disadvantaged youngsters, in the Czech group they will be 5, in the Bulgarian – 4. The rest of the groups will include two young disadvantaged people.

72 young people and their leaders for 12 days will be involved in a variety of activities: cross-cutting themes will be discussed, they will share best practices in the field of youth, they will learn about the "Erasmus +", will organize and engage with young people from the local community in voluntary eco-action, they will meet representatives of local authorities, will go to see cultural and historical sites in Bulgaria, will explore the option to create and organize a small business, will organize an exhibition to the local community with candles and photographs made during the project days, they will plan future joint projects and will exercise outdoors. Each country will have its national evening, which will present to the other participants their culture, religion, songs, folk dances, cuisine and celebrities through video presentations, music, theater, dance, art, photography and other means.

The project will take place at a mountain hotel in Rhodope mountain near Plovdiv, Bulgaria from 29.09.2014 to 11.10.2014.

At work we plan to fully use the methods of non-formal education: brainstorming, learning by doing, teamwork, working in small groups, workshop, interactive methods, role SALTO games, simulations, discussions, evaluation and self-esteem, creativity, creative activities and more.

The decision to apply with this project is based on our desire to share experience with all groups involved in non-formal education, to increase participants' knowledge of European citizenship in the context of the "European Year of Citizens" and encourage the participation of young people in





policy of United Europe, to conduct youth exchanges outdoors, to bring together the practical methods of informal learning, to stimulate the need of the young people to acquire new knowledge, to support the integration of young people into society by encouraging their initiative and entrepreneurial spirit to meet the principles of work, to form civic participation of young people from different European countries, to encourage awareness of our common European heritage and culture, to contribute to building a better understanding of the values of our common European heritage, to help eliminate discrimination and promote equality at all levels of society, to create an opportunity to participate in an international project for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds, to improve knowledge of the "Erasmus+", develop and deploy practices for future interaction.

The expected impact on the 72 youths, 6 leaders and their immediate environment:

- To improve their skills of interpersonal communication;*
 - To develop their skills and ability to maintain effective working communication between partner organizations at European level;*
 - To acquire knowledge on how to start their own small business, business plan, materials, securing a loan from the bank market and to be more competitive in the labor market;*
 - Practical skills for making candles;*
 - Raising awareness of other cultures and values;*
 - Opportunities and contacts needed to participate in the development of future projects related to the social integration of disadvantaged young people , giving them the necessary skills to create a peer network;*
- 2 Logical framework for future joint projects.*

Some of the potential long-term benefits:

- active participation of young people in policies of united Europe;*
- increasing youth employment;*
- joint initiatives and mobility.*

Organizers:

***Sega Association, Plovdiv, Bulgaria**

Participants Organizations:

***Aktif Genclik ve Spor Kulubu Dernegi, Turkey**

***Asotiatia Coltehtim, Romania**

***ADAS Spain**

***Incredere Italia**

***Tmelnik Czech Republic**

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