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E-BOOKLET ON WONDER WOMEN

27.10-04.11.2018
KAUNAS, LITHUANIA



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Erasmus+

ERASMUS+ TRAINING COURSE

WONDER WOMEN

**27.10-04.11.2018
KAUNAS, LITHUANIA**

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES:

GREECE POLAND ITALY UNITED KINGDOM SPAIN LITHUANIA



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Inspiration

The positive impact of having women leaders is widely recognised by several researches of the last decades. It's demonstrated that companies with more women on board are more economically productive, while increasing the women role in politics makes institutions and policies more representative. Despite that, the underrepresentation of women in leading positions is still concerning. Youth organizations from Italy, UK, Spain, Greece, Poland and Lithuania gathered to play important role through awareness campaigns aimed at making the society recognize an equal status to women in the field of work and leadership and targeted initiatives such as workshops, trainings, support services aimed at building women self-confidence, leadership & entrepreneurial skills.

Now, we're willing to share the results of the project implemented to other youth organisations, so that the project could be replicable elsewhere.

Objectives

The aim of the project was to promote gender equality and encourage women empowerment through youth organizations' work. The project provided European youth workers with tools, resources and tips aimed at making initiatives and campaigns for women empowerment. Thus, it helped the participants to gain the necessary skills and resources to further contribute to the transition of EU population towards a more inclusive society. To achieve it, a number of objectives were set:

- 1) Share good practices of women empowerment in Europe and help youth workers learn from each other;
- 2) Define the role of youth workers and improve their transversal skills in the field of women empowerment;
- 3) Improve the quality of youth work by developing new tools and methods for women empowerment;
- 4) Raise public awareness about gender issues and women rights in Europe and promote women empowerment in the society.

In general, the project activities were aimed at: a) Discussing and coming up with various explanations of gender equality and women empowerment concepts; b) Providing a space for exchange of tools and good practices from different organizations and youth workers; c) Exploring new methodologies for youth work in the field of women empowerment; d) Providing opportunities for networking, maintaining partnerships and further work on the issue.

Project's Participants

30 youth workers from Lithuania, Poland, Italy, Greece, UK and Spain gathered in Kaunas to learn more about women empowerment. The project is designed for youth workers who have experience in working with women empowerment, leadership, gender issues and similar fields related to the project's topic. The target participants are the ones who are willing to learn and further implement in practice how to empower women through their work with youth.

The project was designed for youth workers who have experience in working with women empowerment, gender equality, anti-discrimination matters, fighting domestic abuse and similar fields related to the project's topic. The target participants were the ones who were willing to learn and further implement in practice how to empower women through their work with youth. These people were bringing their own tools of working towards equality and shared it with the group. The youth workers were youth trainers, youth lecturers, youth volunteers, people working in women activist organisations, etc.

The project had around half of the participants who are facing geographical obstacles (living in remote rural areas), economic obstacles (from financially disadvantaged families), and/or social obstacles (lack of communication competencies, yet not due to language barriers). As a result, those, who would otherwise have difficulties in going abroad for a training course were chosen. Female youth workers that experienced gender discrimination at work or in other situations were also given a priority. The project saw their needs clearly and sought to boost their future prospects.

Such composition of participants is also recommended for the project you want to implement!

Activities

To achieve the goals and objectives of the project, a range of NFE methods created by the involved partner countries were employed. The main activities identified the benefits of youth participation in creating the means of spreading information about the idea to the public. Creativity, involvement and initiative of all the young people who participated were encouraged throughout the activities, which included:

- I. Info sessions through Treasure Hunt activities, World Café discussions and role games;
- II. Interactive workshops: – “How to Empower Women Through a Social Business” (by Dress for Success NGO)- “Get your women empowerment initiative funded”;
- III. Workshop “Best Free Initiatives to Promote Women Empowerment”;
- IV. Case interactive analysis through Theatre of The Oppressed;
- V. Participants’ made workshops on women empowerment;
- VI. How-to sessions on organizing public social initiatives and sports events as well as on marketing, communication and crisis management of those events aimed at women empowerment.
- VII. Guest speaker Violeta Masteikiene has shared ideas and initiatives how to promote women empowerment
- VIII. Panel discussion In Kaunas municipality (with youth & sports NGOs, government officials, womenactivists).
- IX. How to Session: key things to know in making Online campaigns for women empowerment.
- X. Reviewing the Marketing & Communication campaigns for the public events made prior the project.

All the materials for these activities can be found in the project’s website: <https://bit.ly/2V6Pd83>



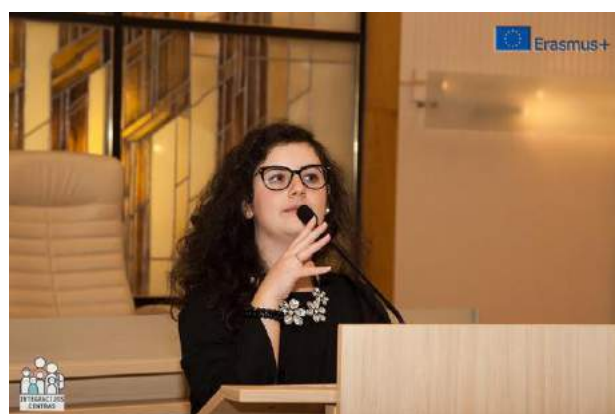
Guest speaker

Inviting guest speakers related to the topic is always a good way to share ideas to the participants. However, the key is to make the sessions as interactive as possible, so that the participants would discuss among themselves and learn new things from each other. During our project, the participants had a chance to meet a guest speaker Violeta Masteikiene who has shared ideas and initiatives how to promote women empowerment.



Kaunas municipality

It is always a useful idea to create meaningful initiatives according to the topic of the project. Specifically in this mobility after participants have extended their knowledge about women empowerment, they had a task to create some techniques which could help to promote women empowerment in various fields. Designed ideas were presented first to other participants, then improved according to the critique and finally presented in Kaunas municipality. Here you can find a video from this public event: <https://www.facebook.com/activeyouthlt/videos/506763779839031/>



Youthpass Recognition

Youthpass is a tool for non-formal & informal learning in youth projects. It is available for projects funded by Erasmus+: Youth in Action (2014-2020) programme. It is a part of the European Commission's strategy to foster the recognition of non-formal learning, putting policy into practice and practice into policy. With Youthpass, participants of Erasmus+ projects can describe what they have done and show what they have learnt. This is a must in each youth exchange made; thus, we recommend to include it to your project too.

Read more about experiences made with Youthpass – <https://www.youthpass.eu>

Project's Success

Training course “Wonder Women” proved to be a success. The participants acquired and improved a number of skills and competencies required for the creation, promotion and support of initiatives aimed at women empowerment, and in general at gender equality. They analyzed gender issues on a global, European and national level. This mobility promoted a new attitude towards youth work. Most importantly, participants created strong bonds between each other so that they could implement further initiatives in the future for a long-term positive impact.

Moreover, youth workers also learned a number of generic skills. Such as how to express themselves in an international environment, present their ideas clearly and network with others. The project also helped the participants increase their social responsibility towards gender discrimination, enhanced their social skills and multilingualism, as well as stimulated their cultural exchange. At the same time, all the participants learned how to effectively work in teams, since most of the activities required teamwork.

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Materials for Your Project

1. Info pack of the training course
2. Schedule of the training course
3. Current knowledge assesment
4. Treasure hunt
5. Roles games
6. Current knowledge assesment responses
7. World Cafè
8. Theatre of the oppressed
9. Participant workshops: Women of influence?
10. Greece workshop
11. Poland workshop
12. UK workshop
13. Organizing a video session
14. List of video
15. Privilege walk
16. Social Entrepreneurship
17. Interactive workshop: building influence
18. Initiative for equal rights contest
19. Initiative plan
20. Greece initiative plan
21. Poland initiative plan

Information about the Project on the Web / Media:

1. [Participant's Pictures on Facebook](#)
2. [Kaunas's media channel](#)
3. [Lithuanian media channel](#)
4. [UK partner about the project](#)
5. [Greece partner about the project](#)

P.S. If you want free consultations on how to replicate the project abroad, don't hesitate to contact us via e-mail to info@refugees.lt