

Newsletter of the SALTO Eastern Europe & Caucasus RC 3/2009

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the 3rd/2009 issue of the Newsletter published by the SALTO Eastern Europe and Caucasus Resource Centre.

In this Newsletter you will find information about activities aimed at the development of non-formal education and youth cooperation between Programme and Eastern European and Caucasian countries, within the framework of the European Union YOUTH in ACTION programme.

Your SALTO EECA RC Team

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1. OUTLOOK on previous activities co-organised by SALTO EECA

1.1 Study visit "Youth work reality in Belarus", Minsk and Grodno, 5-10 May

For the first time in history of our SALTO Eastern Europe and Caucasus we managed to organise a study visit to Belarus! This means that through last 5 years we managed to propose European Youth Workers to visit all 7 Eastern Europe and Caucasus countries.

Objectives of this study visit were quite similar to any other study visit of SALTO EECA:

- to learn about youth policies in Belarus;
- to share experiences and practices in youth work;
- to foster mutual knowledge and understanding between actors in youth sector;
- to promote sustainable contacts between the youth NGOs aiming at future development of projects within the Youth in Action Programme

Do you want to know more about Belarus?

Welcome to the EECA Manual: <http://www.salto-youth.net/eecamanualbelarus/>

See photos: www.salto-eeeca.eu/forum/album_cat.php?cat_id=29

Report will be available till 2010, presenting not only experiences from this Study Visit but also all previous practice of our Resource Centre in this field.

1.2 Training Course "East West EVS", Vadul-lui-Voda, Moldova, 1-7 June

Training Course "EastWestEVS" for youth workers and organisations interested in European Voluntary Service (EVS) projects within Youth in Action programme. Training was organised together by British and Spanish National Agencies of Youth in Action Programme and SALTO Eastern Europe and Caucasus and SALTO Cultural Diversity Resource Centres.

TC "EastWestEVS" aimed at developing competences of EVS projects coordinators and mentors in cooperation between Programme Countries and EECA region with special focus on cultural diversity and intercultural learning in EVS.

See photos: www.salto-eeeca.eu/forum/album_cat.php?cat_id=30

Report will be available till 2010, presenting not only experiences from this Study Visit but also all previous practice of our Resource Centre in this field.

1.3 Seminar on Youth Policy development in Eastern Europe and Caucasus Region, Konstancin Jeziorna, Poland, 6-9 July

In July SALTO EECA together with the Partnership Programme between the European Council and the European Commission organised a seminar on Youth Policy in Eastern Europe and Caucasus to:

- gather key stakeholders of the youth field and youth policy from the EECA region and some CoE and EU experts and to exchange information and views on the status and developments of youth policy in the region, in activities of the Council of Europe youth sector and the initiatives of the European Commission,
- to discuss the potential fields of future cooperation, that would be of most added value to all sides.

This was already second meeting of similar format. In 2010 we plan follow-up activity in different configuration and with higher political impact.

Follow the development of Youth Policy Seminars with Eastern Europe and Caucasus at the web-site of the Partnership Programme:

http://youth-partnership.coe.int/youth-partnership/regional_cooperation/easterneuropeandcaucasus.html

1.4 Other activities of SALTO and National Agencies Network with EECA participants

Since last year SALTO EECA is stronger and stronger fostering participation of youth workers from EECA region in activities organised by different SALTO Resource Centres and National Agencies. This cooperation brings very good outcomes! Till now we managed to support 52 youth workers from the region, most of them sent us very positive feedback after training courses they attended.

During last 3 months we managed to support next EECA youth workers to:

- SOHO Training Course for EVS Coordinators and Mentors, Turkey, 27-31 May
- BTM Training Course for Newcomers in Youth Exchanges, France, 24-28 June
- Traditional sports and games - tool for Intercultural learning, France, 28 June - 5 July

Follow activities of EECA Resource Centre and our SALTO and National Agencies partners in the Activities Calendar: www.salto-youth.net/activitieseeeca

1.5 New issue of “Youth in 7” Magazine

After very fruitful months of work to support youth work in frames of “Youth in Action” Programme in the region of Eastern Europe and Caucasus we accelerate the process of issuing “Youth in 7” Magazine! And present you next issue focused on Russia:

If you want to get-to-know what is Youth Policy and Youth Work Reality in Russia then this issue is for you! First read the article of Balbina Zygal together with a comment from Rouzanna Ivanyan. Afterwards read materials about the EVS activities which were hosted in Russia and about the youth exchange which took place in Russia too and was awarded during the European Youth Week 2008 as the “Best Youth in the World Project”.

If you are interested in “Eastern Partnership” and what this new cooperation opportunity will bring, go to Tomek Bratek’s short information from the first hand.

And if you are keen to learn what Winnie-the-Pooh has to do with the recognition of non-formal learning in EECA region, Nerijus Kriauciunas presents very interesting outcomes of his little research...

So you definitely need to read our new SALTO EECA “Youth in 7” Magazine!

[www.salto-youth.net/download/1844/Youth_in7_\(2008b\).pdf](http://www.salto-youth.net/download/1844/Youth_in7_(2008b).pdf)

See previous editions as well: www.salto-youth.net/eecapublications/#youthin7

1.6 SALTO Forum has now over 200 registered users!

SALTO EECA Forum is constantly growing! In the beginning of July, after 2 years of work, two-hundredth user was registered at the Forum. Till today it is already 211. Join them!

www.salto-eeca.eu

In the Forum you can find a Download Section (www.salto-eeca.eu/forum/dload.php) and Photo Album (www.salto-eeca.eu/forum/album.php) but MOST OF ALL you can post your calls for project partners!!!

2. UPCOMING activities

2.1 Call for Participants for Study visit "Youth work reality in Azerbaijan", Baku and Ganja, Azerbaijan, 19-25 October

Deadline for Participants applications: 11 September!
We also invite National Agencies' officers to apply!

Azerbaijan is a country with the youngest population in EECA region. Average age of the population is 28! Maybe this is why people there are so open minded and interested in international youth cooperation? Let's discover it together!

Objectives:

- to learn about youth policies in Azerbaijan;
- to share experiences and practices in youth work;
- to foster mutual knowledge and understanding between actors in youth sector;
- to promote sustainable contacts between the youth NGOs aiming at future development of projects within the Youth in Action Programme

Organisers: SALTO EECA and the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Republic of Azerbaijan

Working language: English

Age limit: none

Participant's cost: none

Deadline: 11 September!

More details and Application form: www.salto-youth.net/svaz

2.2 Call for Participants for "Training Course "Eastern Express", Istanbul, Turkey, 25 - 31 October

Deadline for Participants applications: 23 August!

"Eastern Express" Training course aims at rising quality of Youth Exchanges within action 3.1 of Youth in Action (YiA) programme, especially is cooperation between Programme and Eastern Europe and Caucasus (EECA) regions.

Programme elements:

- Youth in Action Programme presentation with special focus on cooperation with EECA countries within Action 3.1 projects;
- How to find partners?
- How to organize successful Youth Exchange project with Programme and Neighbouring Partner Countries of Eastern Europe and Caucasus?
- Youth Exchange Project Management within Youth in Action Programme - focus on quality;
- Intercultural learning in youth projects;
- Partnership in youth projects;
- Innovation and creativity in Youth Exchange projects;
- Support activities for Youth Exchanges in Youth in Action Programme;

Organisers: SALTO EECA and Turkish National Agency of YiA Programme

Working language: English

Age limit: none

Participant's cost: none

Deadline: 23 August!

More details and Application form: www.salto-youth.net/eetc2009

2.3 Call for Participants for Training course "Youthpass, yes we train", Konstancin-Jeziorna, Poland, 3-8 November

Deadline for Participants applications: 7 September!

The training course aims to create a laboratory where participants can explore Youthpass as a tool for learning (existing practise and new ways) and improve the use of Youthpass in Action 3.1 and Action 4.3 (training courses) of the Youth in Action Programme.

During the training course you will have the opportunity to reflect on your experience in arranging non-formal learning processes in training courses. There will be also time to explore challenges and opportunities related to the recognition of non-formal learning.

Organisers: SALTO Training & Cooperation and Polish National Agency of YiA Programme

Working language: English

Age limit: none

Participant's cost: none

Deadline: 7 September!

More details and Application form: www.salto-youth.net/find-a-training/1522.html

2.4 Call for Participants for "ToolFair - around the methods in youth work field", Evora, Portugal, 10 - 15 November

Deadline for Participants applications: 15 September!

Young people, youth workers, youth leaders, youth trainers... you are active in youth field, you have a tool of high quality experienced within a youth project and you want to SHARE your experience with others? The Tool Fair is the event you have to be in!

The Tool Fair is a "showroom" for the huge variety and richness of tools developed and used under the YOUTH IN ACTION programme, a place to experiment with methods and exercises used within the different actions (youth exchanges, EVS, youth initiatives, training) and based on different themes (cultural diversity, inclusion, cooperation with partner countries, etc...).

This is already 4th edition of ToolFair, and Eastern Europe and Caucasus dimension is there from the very beginning!

Organisers: SALTO EuroMed (with support of the SALTO Network) and Portuguese National Agency of YiA Programme

Working language: English

Age limit: none

Participant's cost: none

Deadline: 15 September!

More details and Application form: www.salto-youth.net/toolfair2009

2.5 Call for Participants for "SOHO -Training Course for EVS Coordinators", France, 18 - 22 November

Deadline for Participants applications: 8 September!

The SOHO training supports voluntary as well as full-time youth workers dealing directly with young volunteers in Sending and Host Organisations as coordinator or mentor and having little or no experience in long-term volunteering but being at least in the process of starting an EVS project (Action 2).

This training will go deeper into subjects that are closely linked to EVS. It intends to contribute to an increase in quality of EVS projects.

The main subjects of the training are:

- The role of a coordinator and mentor in an EVS project.
- The intercultural dimension of an EVS project.
- Partnerships in EVS.

Organisers: SALTO Training & Cooperation and French National Agency of YiA Programme

Working language: English

Age limit: none

Participant's cost: none

Deadline: 8 September!

More details and Application form: www.salto-youth.net/find-a-training/1504.html

2.6 Call for Participants for: “TicTac - Training Course to Support Quality in Training & Networking activities”, Sweden, 23-29 November

Deadline for Participants applications: 13 September!

The TICTAC training course supports mainly youth workers and leaders to develop Training and Networking activities within the context of Youth in Action (action 3.1 or 4.3)

The overall aim of the TicTac TC is to promote the development of Training and Networking activities quality (action 3.1 and 4.3) in order to support the needs of the organisation and its international partners.

The specific objectives of the course are:

- to explore the aims Training and Networking and its activities
- to find out how Training and Networking activities match the needs and resources of the participating organisations
- to experience a quality Training and Networking project by participating in the TicTac training itself
- to try out creating an Training and Networking project in an international team
- to develop skills useful for running Training and Networking project
- to become inspired to do Training and Networking projects

Organisers: SALTO Training&Cooperation and Swedish National Agency of YiA Programme

Working language: English

Age limit: none

Participant's cost: none

Deadline: 13 September!

More details and Application form: www.salto-youth.net/find-a-training/1480.html

2.7 Call for Participants for: “European Citizenship Training Course”, Slovenia, 23-29 November

Deadline for Participants applications: 13 September!

The training course on European Citizenship aims to support the professional development of youth workers and youth leaders by extending their critical understanding of European Citizenship, exploring and experiencing its potential and by enabling them to recognise and integrate European Citizenship in their youth work.

Further information on the content of the European Citizenship training courses can be found on the European Citizenship website at www.european-citizenship.org/courses

Organisers: SALTO Training & Cooperation and the Partnership between the Council of Europe and the European Commission

Working language: English

Age limit: none

Participant's cost: none

Deadline: 13 September!

More details and Application form: www.salto-youth.net/find-a-training/1509.html

3. Info desk

3.1 Youthpass for action 3.1 and Youthpass Guide are now available!

The Youthpass Certificates for Action 3.1 are now available! Beneficiaries can use the contract number from now on (and retroactive valid from 1st January 2007) for their Youth Exchanges and Training Courses. After typing-in the project number user needs to choose if providing a Youth Exchange or a Training Course. www.youthpass.eu

Finally we are very happy to provide you now with the Youthpass guide which consist of background information and concrete proposals how to implement Youthpass in Youth Exchanges, European Voluntary Service and Training courses. Youthpass guide is now downloadable from www.youthpass.eu/en/youthpass/guide

3.2 Invitation to “EVS – think Europeanly, act locally!” Training Course

Deadline for Participants applications: 12 August!

Youth Cooperation Centre of Dilijan together with brivpratigais.lv have a new training proposal about EVS taking place on 30th January till 7th February 2010 in Armenia.

Please note that it is addressed ONLY to relatively small size, local organizations (preferably concentrating on youth) with little or no EVS experience (but wish to do EVS projects). So, please read more information about it at SALTO EECA Forum: www.salto-eeca.eu/forum/viewtopic.php?t=276

Best regards,
Ieva Grundsteine, ieva.grundsteine@gmail.com

3.3 EVS projects with Moldova (Transnistria)

International Committee of Citizen Diplomacy is proud to launch a new call for EVS activities in Moldova. We have now four programs that can welcome EVS volunteers and offer them the possibility to work on different themes such as citizenship and democracy, rural youth development, culture and equal opportunities.

If you would like to send volunteers to Moldova or come by yourself, please contact us!

Igor Gavrilov, igor.gavrilov@civildiplomacy.org, igor.gavrilov@gmail.com
International Committee of Citizen Diplomacy, www.civildiplomacy.org

More info posted on SALTO EECA Forum: www.salto-eeca.eu/forum/viewtopic.php?t=269

3.4 Organisation from Voronezh, Russia invites for EVS project

The project will take place in Voronezh (Russia) – a city with almost 1 million inhabitants, 20% of them are students. In Voronezh also study many foreign students. They often face difficulties connected with xenophobia and discrimination.

With this project we want to build contact between local youngsters of the city and foreign young people and to experiment with them intercultural communication and collaboration.

In frame of a club of intercultural communication called “InterAction” we invite 2 European volunteers in order to bring European insight to the topic and to help with bringing 2 social groups together: teenagers and foreigners, making them know each other.

Milana Furman, inter.dialog@gmail.com
Skype: milanafurman

More info posted on SALTO EECA Forum: www.salto-eeca.eu/forum/viewtopic.php?t=272

3.5 Greek group looking for a Youth Exchange host country (action 3.1)

We are a group of university students aged 23-24 (4 girls and 2 boys) from Thessaloniki, who are very much interested in taking part in an exchange project with other European countries.

We are interested mostly in environmental issues, racism and gender discrimination, social inclusion, drug abuse, art and civilization in Europe, as well as culture (music, folklore dances, songs, local tradition and mythology etc). We are looking forward to meeting young people from other countries and come in contact with different cultures, exchange ideas, do projects together and have fun!

If you are interested, do not hesitate to contact us: funtukaki@hotmail.com

More info posted on SALTO EECA Forum: www.salto-eeca.eu/forum/viewtopic.php?t=271

4. INFORMATION on SALTO EECA RC

SALTO Resource Centre for Eastern Europe and Caucasus (EECA) was established in Poland on October 1st, 2003. The aims of the RC are to raise visibility and awareness of the **YOUTH in ACTION Programme** opportunities in Eastern Europe and Caucasus, to promote cooperation with EECA neighbouring countries (**Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine**) and to give support to NAs and youth organizations in the development of contacts, partnerships and expertise in cooperation with EECA region.

You can find this SALTO EECA Newsletter as well as previous issues in PDF version in here: www.salto-youth.net/eecapublications

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Note:

We CANNOT take responsibility for the information and activities published in this Newsletter by parties other than SALTO EECA RC!

Please, forward this NEWSLETTER to anyone who might be interested!

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