

**SALTO-YOUTH**  
TRAINING AND COOPERATION  
RESOURCE CENTRE



# **SOHO Training Course**

24.-28.2. 2010  
Arnhem, The Netherlands

Monika Kezaitė, Contact trainer  
Jarkko Soininen, Report trainer  
Mireille Unger, Host NA representative

## **Final Report**

This report is based on the following sources:

- Pre-questionnaires and post-questionnaires filled in by participants at the beginning and the end of the training course
- Feedback from participants during the training course
- Feedback from the National Agencies staff and the trainers given during the team meetings
- The evaluation session organised at the end of the course

## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Participating countries	Number of participants	Expected number of selected participants
Azerbaijan	1	1
Georgia	1	1
Netherlands	3	4
Romania	2	2
Slovak Republic	2	2
Finland	3	3
Kosovo	1	1
Liechtenstein	1	1
Turkey	4	4
Ukraine	1	1
France	1	2
Italy	1	1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1	1
Poland	3	3
<b>Total number of participants</b>	25	27

<b>Total number of received questionnaires</b>	24 Pre and 24 Post
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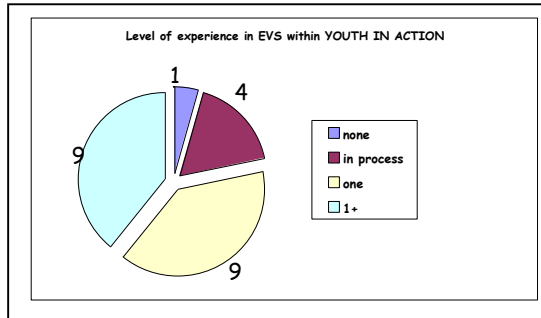
Other people involved: Jolanda van Iperen, from Host National Agency.

## 2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES: ARE THEY MET?

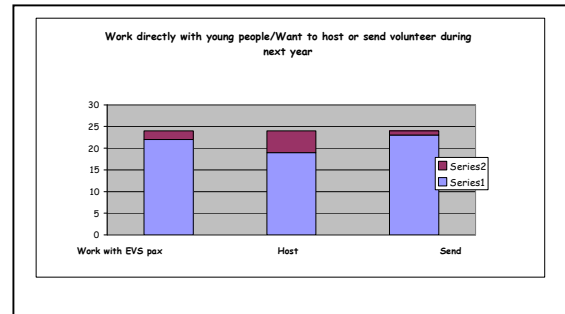
YES	NO
22	0

### 3. TARGET GROUP

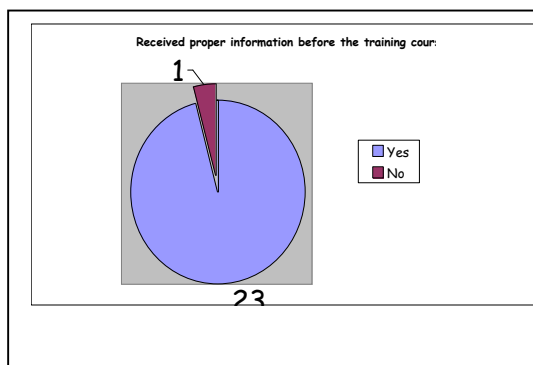
➔ **The experience of the participants**



➔ **Participants working with young people**



➔ **Preparation of participants**



➔ **General conclusion**

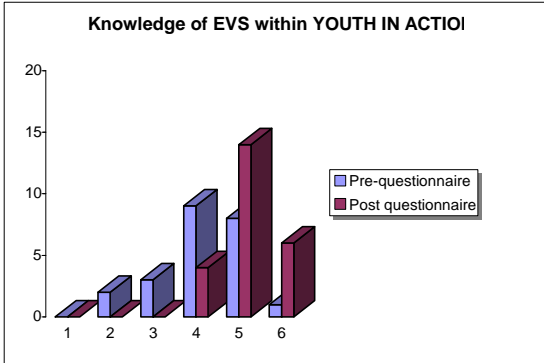
The balance was good between experienced participants and those who had some experience or were in the process of starting EVS. Only one participant didn't have any previous experience. This diversity of experience gave opportunity for sharing and learning from each other.

Few participants are not working directly with young people. Their role is more on the co-ordinating side.

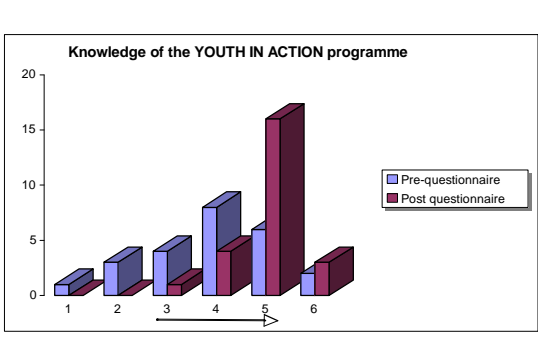
Group was really homogenous in terms of age. This gave a nice element to the group dynamic. On side of the working people seemed to enjoy the company of each other.

4. GROUP LEARNING PROCESSES

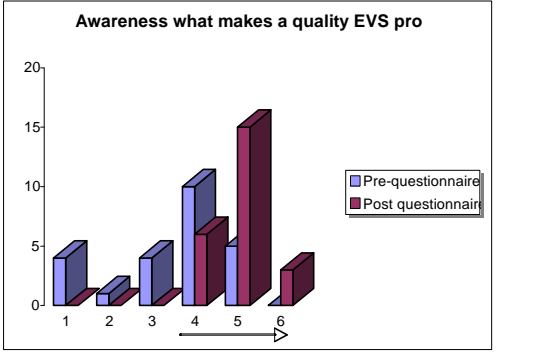
4.1 Knowledge of EVS within YOUTH IN ACTION



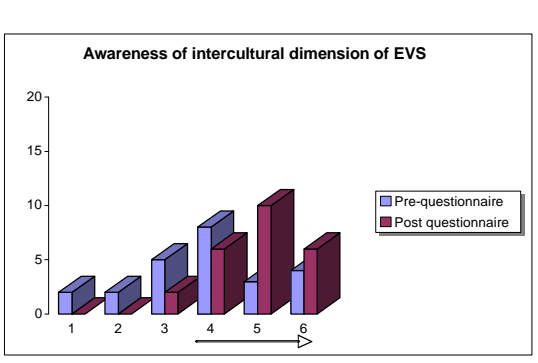
4.2. Knowledge of the YOUTH IN ACTION programme



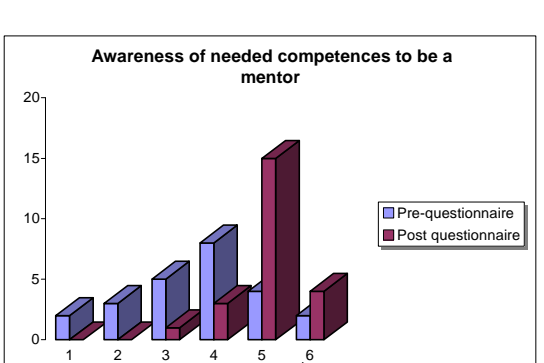
4.3. Awareness what makes a quality EVS project



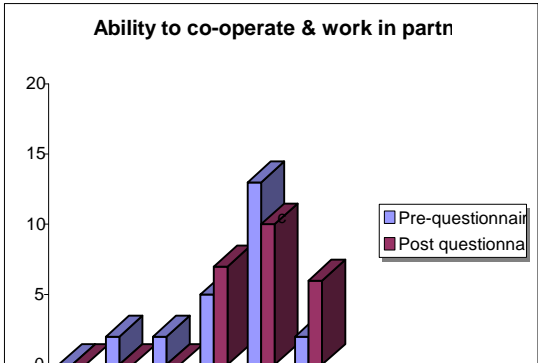
4.4. Awareness of intercultural dimension of EVS



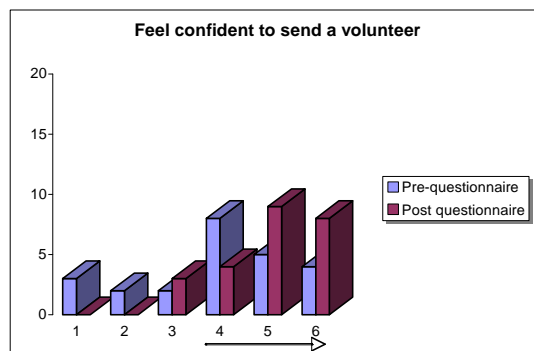
4.5. Awareness of needed competences to be a mentor



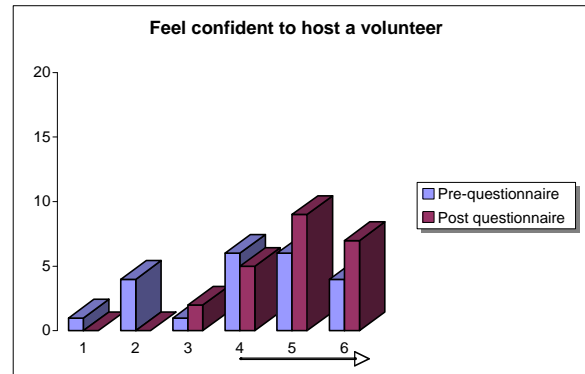
4.6. Ability to co-operate & work in partnership



#### 4.7. Feel confident to send a volunteer



#### 4.8. Feel confident to host a volunteer



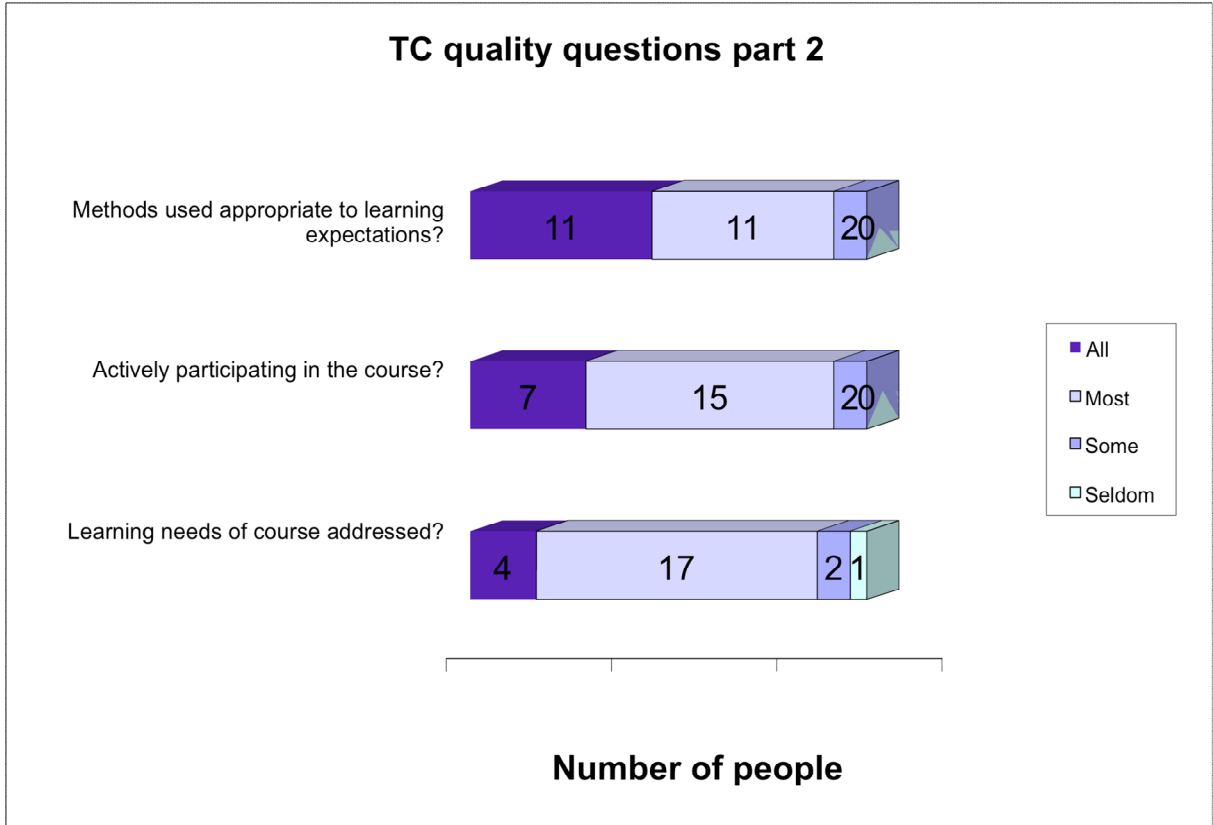
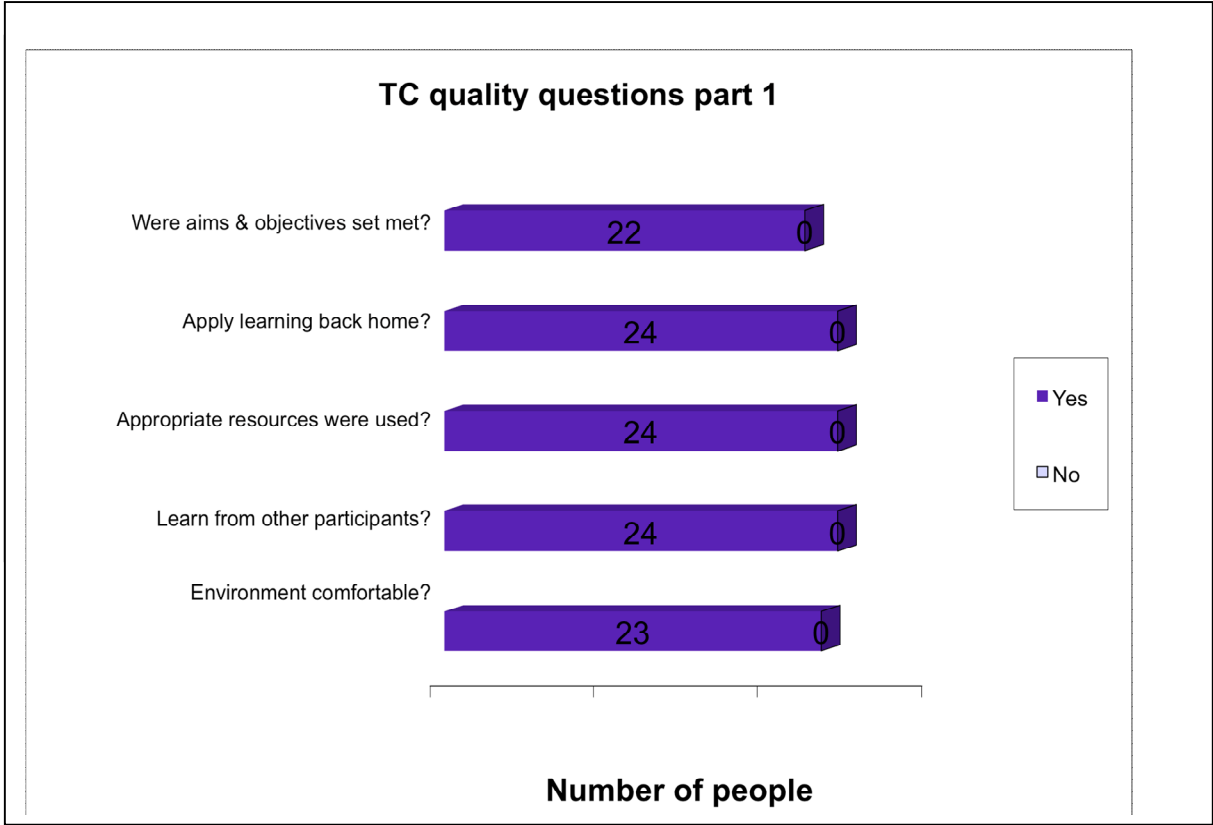
#### ➔ General conclusion

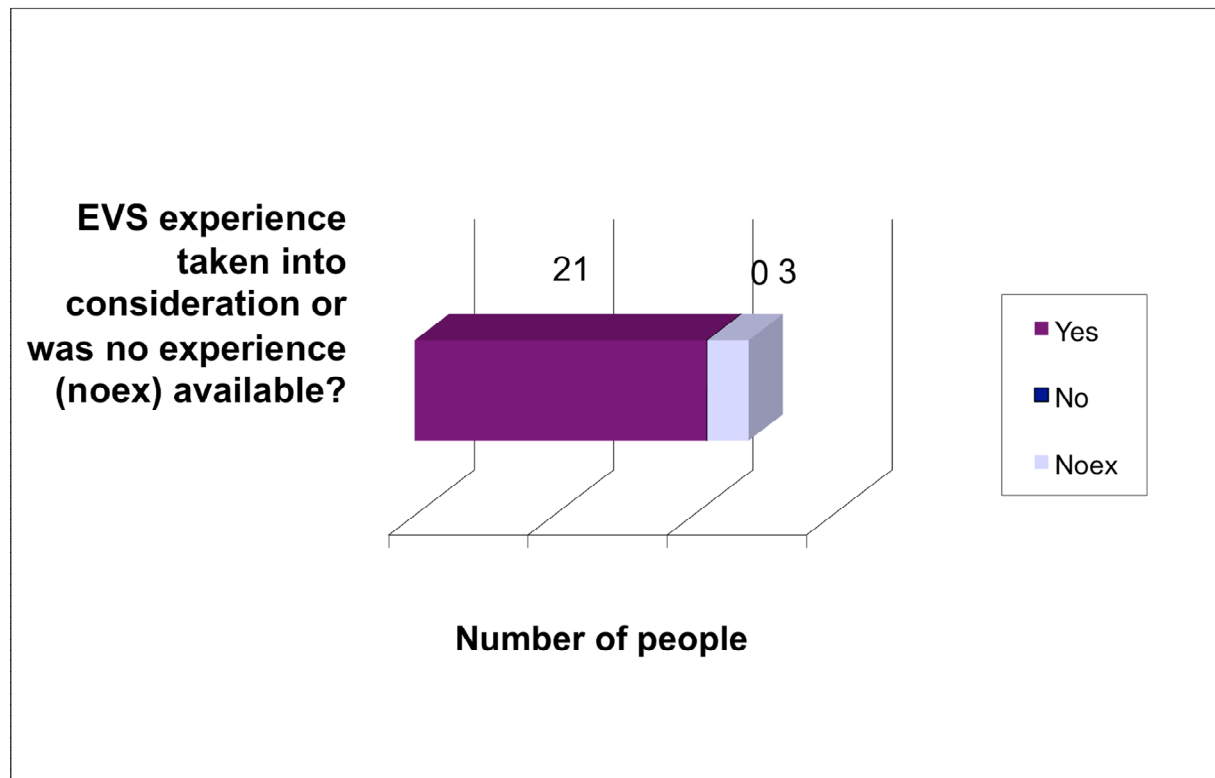
Overall we can see good development gained in this training course. Some of the organisations present on the training course had quite established way of doing EVS. This had an effect to the last two questions (4.7. and 4.8.) as these participants mentioned they are only sending or hosting organisations.

Additionally to the information gained from the evaluation, participants mentioned that this training course gave them a good opportunity to share many different points of view to the similar work they are doing. In practice this meant sharing of concrete tools and methods to work with volunteers, but also sharing understanding the whole concept of EVS.

It was also mentioned that the strong focus on the learning as a horizontal element in EVS and in SOHO gave a good opportunity to reflect their work.

5. QUALITY OF TRAINING ENVIRONMENT





As a general comment it can be said that participants were really satisfied with the quality of the training environment. The venue was good for this kind of event. An important aspect in this kind of “social interaction” event is the space for it. In this venue there was a nice bar in the lobby where it was easy to sit down in the evening. SOHO is an intensive training course and the well-organised dinner was a relaxing moment. In the feedback we can see that participants felt this was a useful training and they can apply this learning in their work.

## 6. FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

Programme aspects:

There are some elements on the training that could be improved. The letters of the volunteers could be brought back to the programme. We could read the letters at the end of the day and make these stories a horizontal element as we go through the EVS process. We could even make Youthpasses for these volunteers and use them as examples.

For the Checkpoint exercise we should produce a good handout. Now we have used different kinds of copies of the Checkpoint for the trainer document.

For the Making the Right match the presentation of the formal criteria's should be updated.

We found out with this group, that in the session of “Supporting the learning” which was made with as a learning coffee, the questions should be more focused in each step, or to re-think the method.

In the learning to learn we focused on learning styles and to the link of supporting the leaning of volunteers. We didn't have presentation of experiential learning. This was a good decision as we were able to focus instead of opening more issues. We could have more planned options for this session. Rethinking of primary aims and objectives in order to have more possibilities, which we could adapt to different group.

## **7. TEAM**

Co-operation with the Hosting National Agency was really fluent. Contact trainer got all the support she needed in the preparation phase. During the training the support was really well organised. The task division in the team was clear for everyone. This was clear also for the participants. Trainers were able to concentrate their tasks as Jolanda van Iperan from Hosting National Agency was taking care all the practical issues. Co-operation between the trainers was also really easy and supportive. Trainers have been working together quite some many times and this helped co-operation.

## **8. OTHER (from the Oral/Visual evaluation of the course)**

### **Programme elements of the course:**

#### **YiA Quiz**

For most of the participants this session was informative and useful for the work. Some participants mentioned this was a good introduction and stimulation to find out more about it. Less experienced participants would have like to here more details from all of the actions.

#### **EVS presentation**

In EVS presentation we used the knowledge of participants. They were divided into four groups and each of these groups got a task to present certain main element of EVS. Groups made creative and informative presentations. Active involvement and use of previous experience was appreciated.

#### **Selection and Recruitment - Making the right match**

Participants mentioned this was really useful session. Case studies confronted participants to reflect their reality. "Yeah! I finally got it." Some participants would have like to have a list of "tips & tricks" for volunteer recruitment & selection.

#### **EVS Partnership in practice - Check Point Exercise**

Check Point was considered as a effective, useful and active session. "A good way to repeat everything you actually know already or at least should know."

## **Guidance and Support in EVS - Guiding exercise**

These words were used in the evaluation: Active, perfect, thrilling & emotional, great fun, educative, long- but fine. I realised some aspects of my personality, useful for my work as “manager”.

## **Learning to learn in EVS**

We had a nice opportunity to use pace meters for the discovery of different learning styles. This session was seen as eye opening, good reflection about myself, supportive and active.

## **Learning support and learning tools**

Some participants mentioned they got more insights and self confidence to support the learning of their volunteers. This session gave also support and opportunity to share practical tools. Some participants would have like to hear more examples of how to support volunteers learning.

## **Key competences in EVS and Youthpass**

This session was seen as very useful and important. More concrete examples on use of Key competences would be helpful for some participants.

In addition to programme elements, the participants were also asked to evaluate following two aspects:

### **Methodology**

Methodology was seen as perfect, involving, practical, attractive and complete. To improve some participants mentioned to include open space moments to ensure individual learning needs.

### **Trainer's work**

Here are some comments made by participants: Good job, complete, supported and quite impressive.

## 9. ANNEX – Participants list

First name	Last name	Organisation		E-mail
Raul	Gulmammadov	Azerbaijan Volunteer's Public Union	Azerbaijan	<a href="mailto:raul_vo@yahoo.com">raul_vo@yahoo.com</a>
Nino	Gvedashvili	Human Rights Center	Georgia	<a href="mailto:gvedashvili@gmail.com">gvedashvili@gmail.com</a>
Hanneke	Van Daalen	Porta Nuova Europa Association	Italy	<a href="mailto:hanneke.vandaalen@portanuova31.it">hanneke.vandaalen@portanuova31.it</a>
Sabrina	Wachter	Bildungs- und Seminarhaus Gutenberg, Balzers	Liechtenstein	<a href="mailto:sabrina_wachter@hotmail.com">sabrina_wachter@hotmail.com</a>
Jaron	Cohen	Loesje	Netherlands	<a href="mailto:jaron@loesje.nl">jaron@loesje.nl</a>
Menno	Weijs	Platform Spartak	Netherlands	<a href="mailto:menno@platformspartak.eu">menno@platformspartak.eu</a>
Rixt	Wolbers	SIW international voluntary projects	Netherlands	<a href="mailto:rixt@siw.nl">rixt@siw.nl</a>
Ramona	Dragomir	Pro Vobis National Volunteer Center	Romania	<a href="mailto:dragomir.ramona@gmail.com">dragomir.ramona@gmail.com</a>
Cristian	Corduneanu	I.Q.Suport	Romania	<a href="mailto:cristian.corduneanu@gmail.com">cristian.corduneanu@gmail.com</a>
Eduard	Jendral	Alter Nativa NGO	Slovak Republic	<a href="mailto:eduscho78@gmail.com">eduscho78@gmail.com</a>
Erika	Raslikova	Konicek bez barier	Slovak Republic	<a href="mailto:pribilincova@gmail.com">pribilincova@gmail.com</a>
Nayil	İnal	Mersin Üniversitesi Dış İlişkiler Şube Müdürlüğü	Turkey	<a href="mailto:nayil_inal@hotmail.com">nayil_inal@hotmail.com</a>
Tayfun	Tekin	ADANA YOUTH UNION ASSOCIATION (2009-TR-4)	Turkey	<a href="mailto:agbider@gmail.com">agbider@gmail.com</a>
Papatya	Senol	Municipality of Bornova	Turkey	<a href="mailto:topapatya@gmail.com">topapatya@gmail.com</a>
Nazan	Turan	Genç Birikim Derneği	Turkey	<a href="mailto:nzntrn@hotmail.com">nzntrn@hotmail.com</a>
Mykola	Pekh	Institute of Ukrainian Studies	Ukraine	<a href="mailto:mpekh@mail.lviv.ua">mpekh@mail.lviv.ua</a>
Magdalena Maria	Kaj	One World Association	Poland	<a href="mailto:magdalena.kaj@gmail.com">magdalena.kaj@gmail.com</a>
Barbara	Ligas	Youth Development and Integration Association STRIM	Poland	<a href="mailto:basia@strim.org.pl">basia@strim.org.pl</a>
Bakir	Demir	SOS Social Centre "Hermann Gmeiner"	Bosnia and Herzegovina	<a href="mailto:bakir_demir@yahoo.com">bakir_demir@yahoo.com</a>
Vitore	Zefi	Youth Center Ardhmeria-Kline	Kosovo	<a href="mailto:vitorezefi65@hotmail.com">vitorezefi65@hotmail.com</a>
Eeva	Huotari	Youth Centre Villa Elba	Finland	<a href="mailto:eeva.huotari@kokkola.fi">eeva.huotari@kokkola.fi</a>
Mari	Niemi	The Finnish Nature League	Finland	<a href="mailto:mari.niemi@luontoliitto.fi">mari.niemi@luontoliitto.fi</a>
Paula	Hämeen-Anttila	Allianssi Youth Exchanges	Finland	<a href="mailto:paula.hameen-anttila@helsinki.fi">paula.hameen-anttila@helsinki.fi</a>
Barbara	Tranchida	ADCEI	France	<a href="mailto:btranchida@adcei.org">btranchida@adcei.org</a>
Aneta	Godynia	Federacja Związków Gmin i Powiatów RP	Poland	<a href="mailto:a.godynia@federacja.krakow.pl">a.godynia@federacja.krakow.pl</a>