

SALTO-YOUTH
TRAINING AND COOPERATION
RESOURCE CENTRE



Education and Culture



Network Training Course on European Citizenship

**Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK
14 - 19 of June, 2010**

Report

Course implemented by
Paola Bortini, Xavier Baró Urbea, Elena Kasko

Course hosted by **the British Council**

*TC EC Team Evaluation report, UK
14 -19 June 2010*

1.**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Dates of the course

14 – 19 June 2010

Trainers:

Contact with hosting NA:
Xavier Baró Urbea

Youth pass and follow-up:
Paola Bortini

Report:
Elena Kasko

Number of Participants (+ represented countries)

27 participants from:

Albania
Belarus
Bosnia Herzegovina
France
Italy
Germany
Poland
Romania
Russia
Serbia
Slovak Republic
Spain
Switzerland
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom

Organisers (NA)

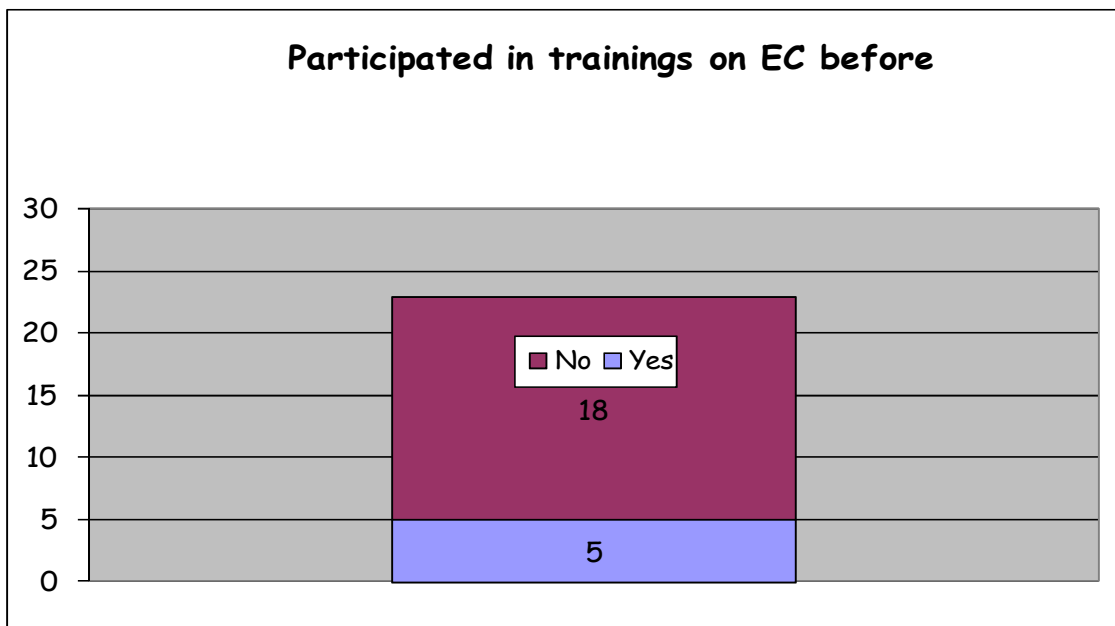
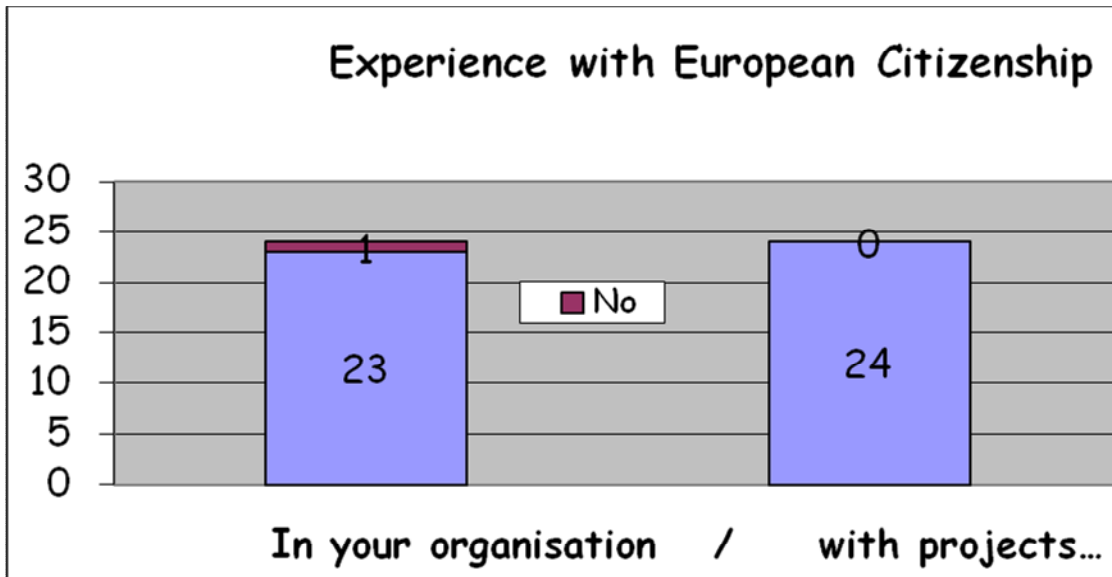
The British Council, United Kingdom

Venue:

Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

2. PARTICIPANTS

27 participants from 16 countries took part in the Training Course on European Citizenship in the UK.



Participants' selection

The participants' selection was in line with the criteria set.

The group composition contributed greatly to the success of the course. The variety of the participants, which represented different professional backgrounds (NGOs, youth workers, civil servants, teachers), origins (ex. Arabs living in Europe; non-EU participants) and experiences, ensured richness of the education process of the course. It would have been better to have more participants from the Northern Ireland in the course, who will in addition stay with the group in the hotel and be more integrated into the group.

The level of the participants was quite mixed: some were quite experienced and had participated in other SALTO courses, some were quite young and inexperienced, what hampered

sometimes their learning process.

However, that did not have any negative consequence for the course. The participants were patient to those differences and showed a high level of support and understanding to each other. The level of interest in the topic of the course as well as the motivation to further work with the topic of the European Citizenship was high.

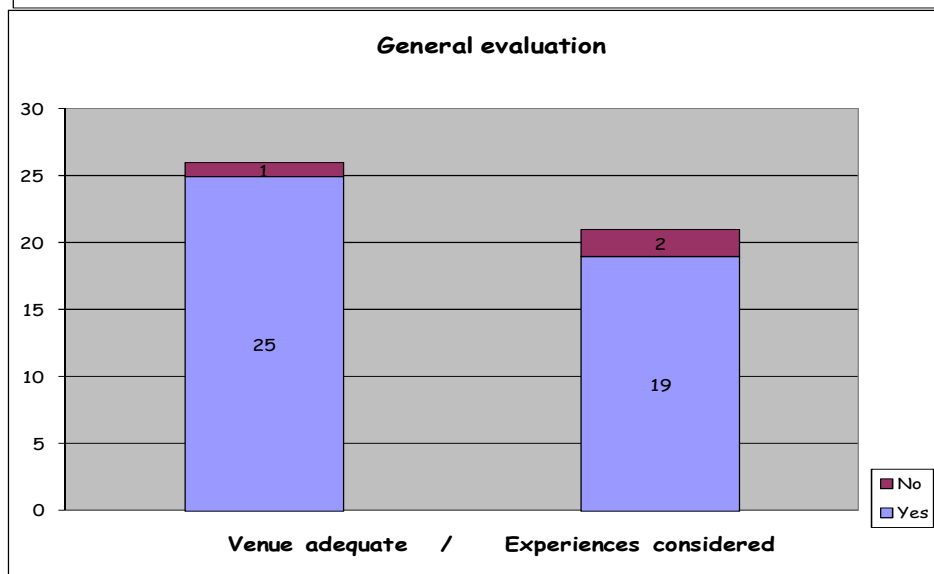
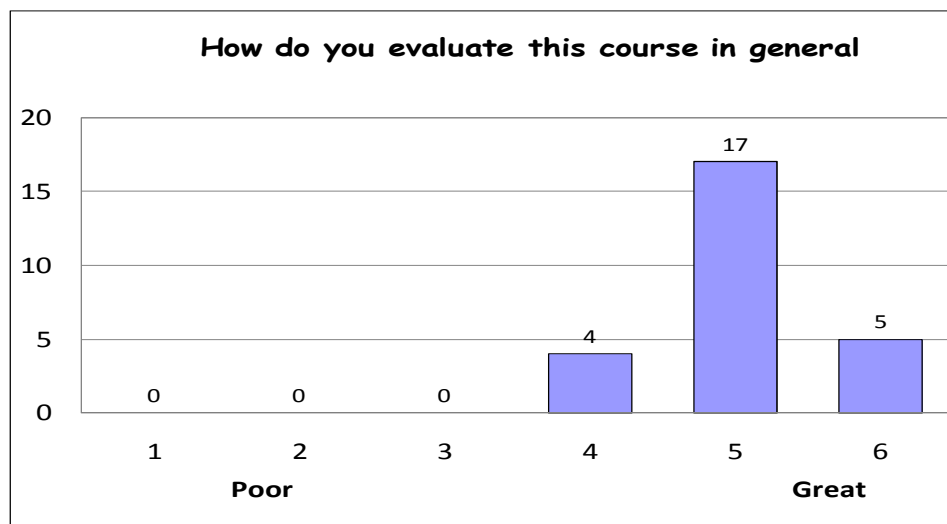
Pre-course preparation of the participants

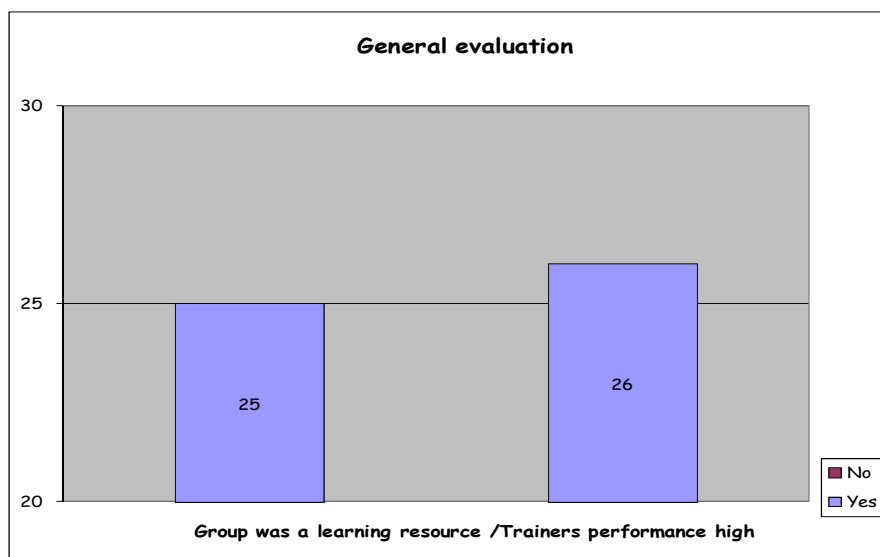
It should be admitted that participants were well prepared to the course. Participation in the ECTC community platform - <http://community.european-citizenship.org> was useful to get participants prepared to the course, exchange some basic information. Majority of them had at least a basic acquaintance with the INFO pack. No major communication problems have accrued during the preparation or during the group. The integration within the group was smooth.

Technically everything was very well organised. The venue and the working areas were well chosen and suited perfectly to the purpose of the course.

Further information about PARTICIPANTS in Annex 1

3. GENERAL ASPECTS OF THE COURSE EVALUATION





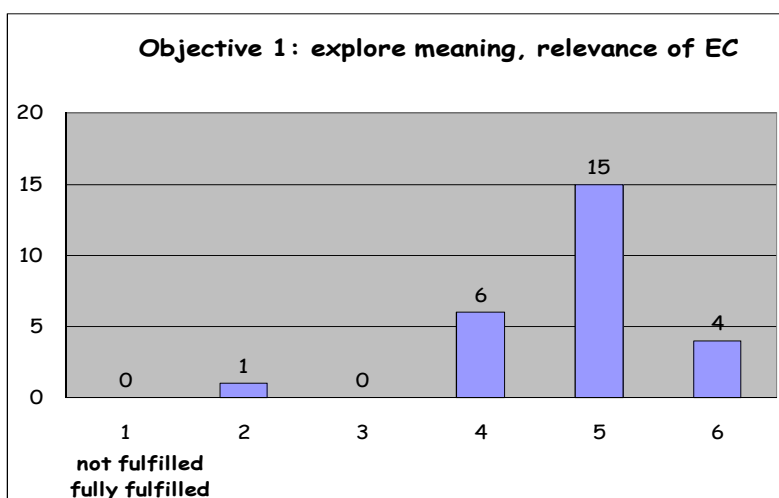
Further feedback of the participants:

What should be kept for the future?	What should be changed?
<p>Mix between theory/activities.</p> <p>The interaction with the local community (in quite a variety of ways, as it was the case now), especially if it contains hot issues that could bring an insight into the reality of the place and the connection to the training topic. Also, the practical, concrete non-formal education methods (making installations for European identity, the simulation of the city council meeting, etc) are much better to learn and go deep in the problem than the power points and frontal presentations.</p> <p>Issues about Non Formal Education, Youth pass Certificate, facts that make us feel European.</p> <p>Simulation game</p> <p>The Wheel, as it helps to put different pieces into one whole understanding.</p> <p>Wall of questions and discoveries.</p> <p>Group dynamic and group energy.</p> <p>Non-formal methodology.</p>	<p>More tailored to the background of the participants, introducing the actual concept of EC earlier to have more time to reflect upon it and try to apply it on to the realities of our work. I would like us to have the time for at least half a day to discuss and explore concrete methods of applying EC in our actual work - either from the trainers' experience or from that of the participants if they have it. I really needed a more concrete, tangible input on this.</p> <p>Also, the time allocation for some of the activities could have been more generous, such as the NGO agora.</p> <p>More time for proper discussions about the relevant issues like European Citizenship.</p> <p>More work and discussions in small groups.</p> <p>Every day evaluations to digest to content of the day would have been very useful.</p> <p>Individual or small group daily evaluation.</p> <p>Self-assessment, youth pass needs more time to reflect on.</p> <p>Less paper materials, more electronic ones.</p>

The EC concept and the way it was presented.	More outdoor activities and less sitting in the plenary.
Cultural diversity of the participants.	The amount of information or the length of the course, which should be a couple of days longer.

4. ACHIEVEMENT OF COURSE OBJECTIVES

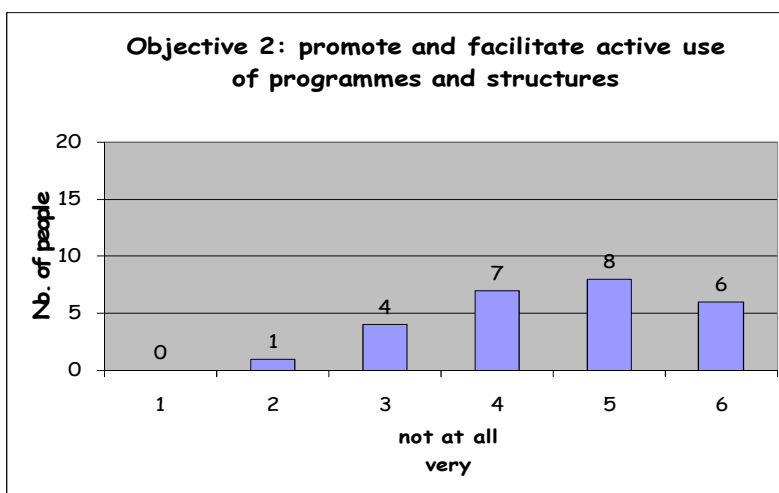
Objective 1. To critically explore the meaning, relevance and implications of European citizenship in youth work in all its dimensions;



Comments by the participants

I think we did explore it critically and I very much appreciated the trainers provocations which were often launched and the alternative perspectives we were invited to have. I understand now, that EC should lead to the action and change in our environment and here is what I see the greater link to youth exchanges, which we organise in our organisation. Training course helped me to connect notion of EC more with what I am doing but I feel I still need to work on practical implementation of it into our projects - e.g. workshops about EC.

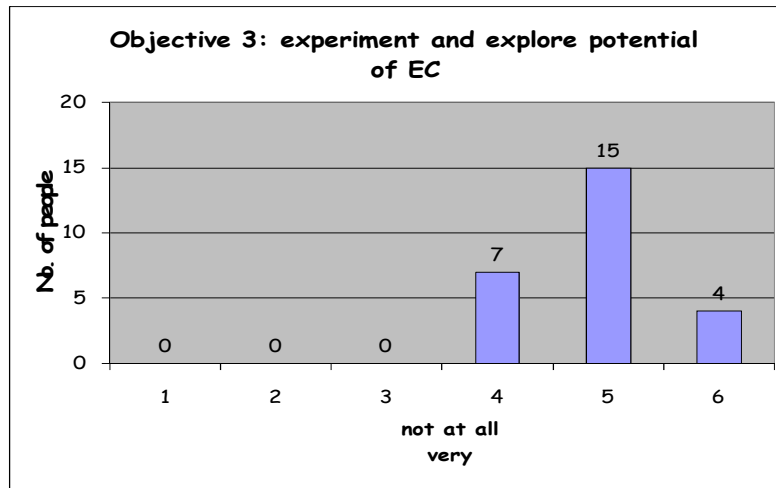
Objective 2. To promote and facilitate the active use of programmes and structures in support of youth work on European Citizenship, including Youth in Action;



Comments by the participants

For me it was ok, because I knew a lot about YiA before coming, but I think that for some of the participants who did not have so much information on this topic, the presentation did not give that much input, motivation or clarity. I knew about YiA before and we have done some youth exchanges in its framework, so the presentation about it did not give me anything new. I needed to have more information about action 4.6 Partnerships, but it was said, that this is only in competence of Brussels Agency, not in competence of NAs. But I discovered new possibility of funding through Council of Europe.

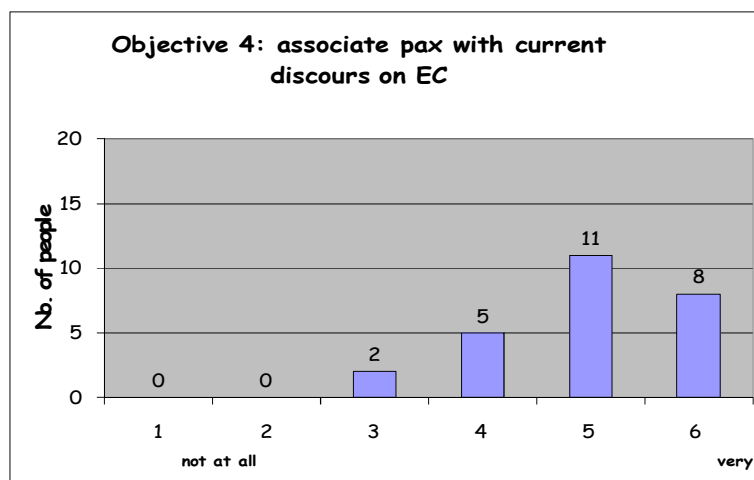
Objective 3. To experience and explore the potential of European Citizenship for active democratic change in society;



Comments by the participants

Not much practical experience. We partly did this in the simulation activity, but I would have liked at least one more application on this topic. The situation in Belarus is quite different from other countries. So in several cases it is hard to find the right way. But we are looking forward to it. In my opinion, it was the most sensitive and interesting issue of this course, that provoked a lot of debates.

Objective 4. To associate the participants with the current discourse on European Citizenship (its concepts, formal meanings and expressions);

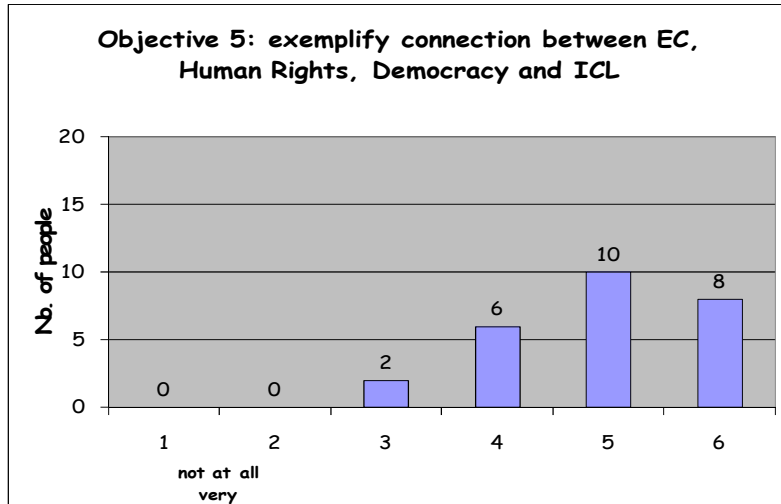


Comments by the participants

I am happy I now know about the non-standard EC concept (besides the others) and I think I

understood it rather well. This was very complex and broad and covered in almost fully. I missed a bit one clear definition of EC but I understand, that I am maybe used to learn only definitions from school and EC is something, that has broader concept and cannot be explained in one sentence. So I think now I understand it as it was presented and I am curious about how it will develop in its process. Actually, we have been able to listen to different opinions even when some of them were not correct.

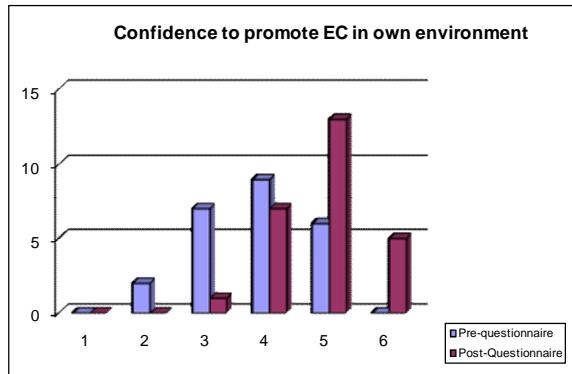
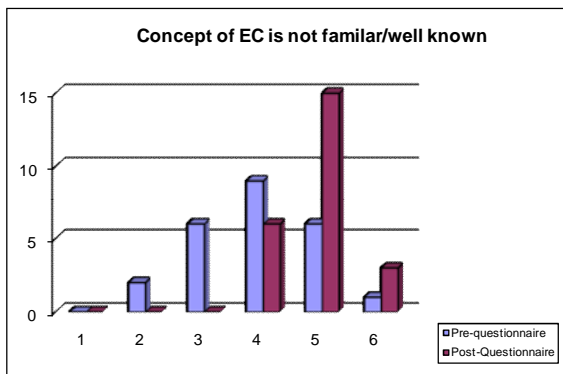
Objective 5. To exemplify the connection between European Citizenship, Human Rights, Democracy and ICL and the underlying values;

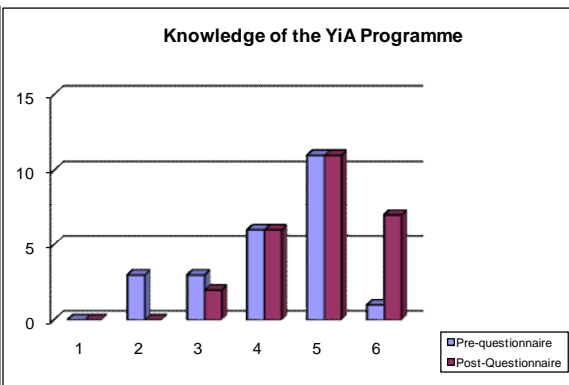
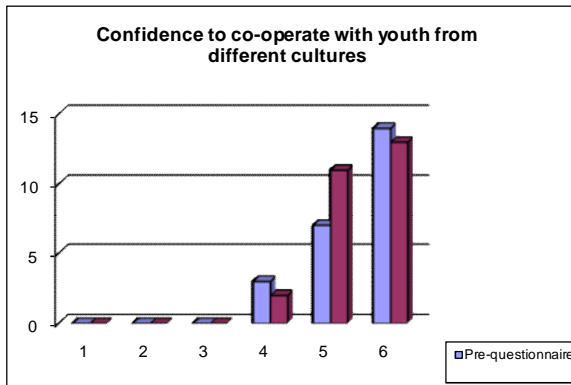
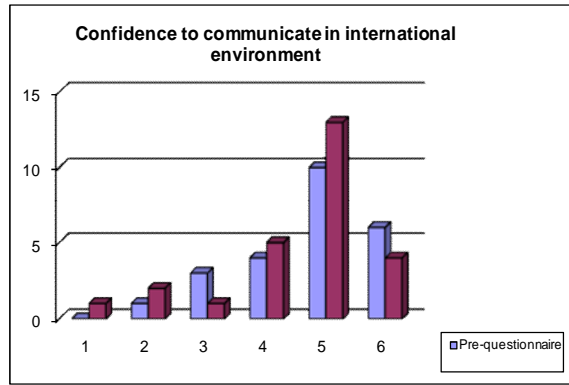
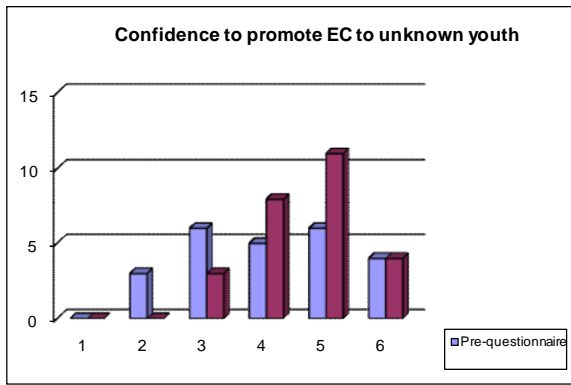


Comments by the participants

I liked the wheel, it made a lot of sense and I now just hope I will now be gradually able to apply it in my work. I wouldn't say that the analysis was extremely profound, but the discussions were comprehensive enough. More workshops and information needed to back up workshop.

5. COMPETENCE DEVELOPMENT OF PARTICIPANTS

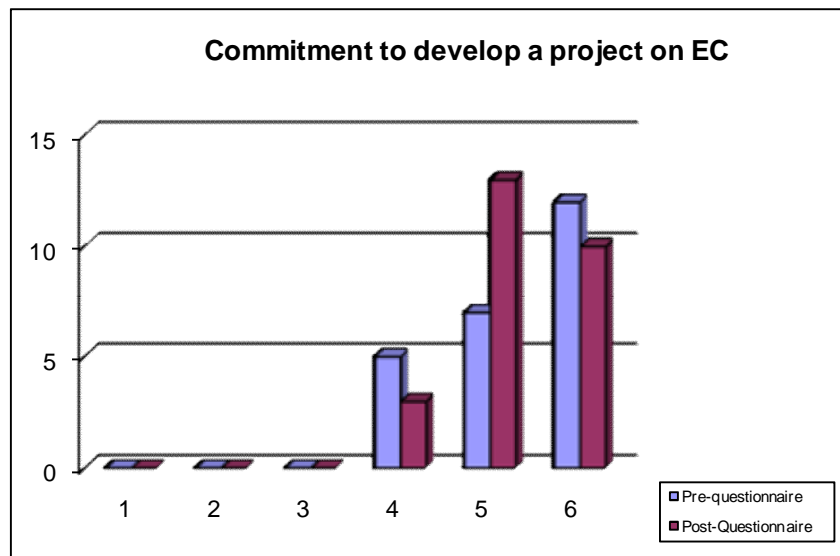




The participants scored their ability to promote EC both in their own environment as well as to new young people quite high. They stated that they feel more confident to do so due to better understanding of the EC concept, because they see the importance of the EC promotion in their youth work and as they see how practically they can integrate it in their NGOs.

The knowledge of the participants about the possibilities given by YiA program has increased after the course. The majority of the participants are planning to use it in their work.

6. COMMITMENT TO DEVELOP PROJECTS



Learning transfer

All participants expressed their commitment to develop an action or a project after the training course. The participants plan to use both YiA programme as well as the tool of the Council of Europe to develop their EC projects. Some participants are planning to update their NGOs about all they have learnt during the course and encourage other NGO members to participate in the ECTC or other events on the issue. Participants hoped that they will be supported in their work on European Citizenship back home by their organizations as well as the trainers of the course via platform instrument or on personal bases.

Participants` ideas for the first actions:

- projects on all the following actions:1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 3.1b, 3.2, 4.1, 4.3, 4.6, 5.1
- Promoting European culture and diversity among European youngsters.
- Exchange, EVS
- A study visit in Strasbourg for Immigration policy and TC for ECWH
- I will see to what extend we can include the EC Concept into existing projects and later on maybe work on a specific project about EC
- Projects on the Intercultural learning and European Citizenship
- International meetings, youth exchanges
- Youth exchanges around democracy
- Use aspects addressed during the ECTC
- Some more exploration of the topic is needed
- Etc.

7. COURSE EVALUATION BY NA REPRESENTATIVES AND TRAINERS

General evaluation

Team of trainers of the ECTC UK evaluated the course positively and believed the program's flow that the team followed during the course was logical and effective to fulfill the objectives of the course. The team has followed the curriculum with adjustments made during the last Pool of trainers meeting in Cologne. The team admitted that some newly introduced changes have improved the curriculum of the course and made it more dynamic. Namely, the simulation game on islamophobia have brought some dynamism into the program, as well as it helped participants to make more clear links between European citizenship, ICL, Participation and Human Rights.

Another adjustment to the programme was made in order to use the local environment as source for learning and better understanding of the concept of European Citizenship.

Team has highlighted that the participation selection process contributed immensely to the success of the course. The presence of the participants of different origins than European in the course brought an important dimension to the ECTC and enriched the discussions.

Proposals to the coming training courses, curriculum and use of virtual platform

It can be recommended by the team to have NGO agora during the day and not as an evening activity, as it keep people more awake and active.

The team of trainers has developed a proposal for future ECTCs taking in the shift from three to two trainers and the observations made during previous ECTCs.

Local dimension

Local dimension was one of the best part of the course. It was very well integrated to the training programme and contributed immensely to the discoveries of the local realities in Europe. The connection between the local reality and the training programme should be reinforced in the future in all the course. This means an extra work for contact trainer to find out what can be the link as well as the whole team should find the best way to integrate it into the programme. The support of the NA colleagues is highly appreciated in this part of the TC.

Team work

Team work was productive, effective and supportive. Smooth communication within the team. Clear roles sharing.

Co-operation with the hosting National Agency

Smooth cooperation, optimal conditions for the training course. NA colleagues were involved into the team meetings if needed. They supported the team throughout the whole process. Very professional staff of the National Agency. It is recommended to limit all the prior course communication to the contact trainer in order to avoid any possible miscommunication.

Training venue

The training venue was well-chosen for this type of the course. The fact that the course took place in the Northern Ireland gave the participants a possibility to experience a new reality in Europe and an added value to the course as such.

The accommodation was of high quality. The working conditions were good and suitable: strategically located; opportunity for out-door activities; helpful and flexible staff; easy access to the city.

ANNEX 1. List of participants

Country	Organisation	Participant	Gender	Contact
France	Association Maison de Quartier du Bois du Chateau	Salim Mokhnachi	M	salimmokhnachi@wanadoo.fr
Germany	Wirtschaftsakademie Schleswig-Holstein	Susanne Paepcke	F	susanne.paepcke@wak-sh.de
Germany	Citizens for Europe	Martin Wilhelm	M	wilhelm@citizensforeurope.org
Germany	Internationale Jugendgemeinschaftsdienste (I.J.G.D)	Sophia Ermert	F	sophia.ermert@berlin.de
Poland	Stowarzyszenie Kultura Miejska (City Culture Association)	Magdalena Mozejko	F	m_mozejko@onet.eu
Slovak Republic	eRko	Veronica Svitkova	F	vsvitka@gmail.com
Spain	Ajuntament de Silla	Susanna Morant	F	infojove@silla.es
Spain	Council of Pilas (Seville)	Daniela Barragan	F	pilasinternacional@live.com
Switzerland	Young European Swiss (YES)	Stefanie Krauer	F	steffikrauer@web.de
Turkey	Tüm Renkler Eski Avrupa Gönüllü Hizmeti Gönüllülerinin Gençlik Derneği	Ergun Issiz	M	e.issiz@gmail.com
Turkey	tog- Community Volunteers	Sevcan Selamet	M	sevcan.selamet@boun.edu.tr
Turkey	E-Gencilik	Bora Akince		boraakince@gmail.com
UK	Belfast Computer Clubhouse	Geraldine Cunningham-Carmichael	F	geraldine.cunningham@gmail.com
UK	Suffolk lenadoon interface group	Cathal Tolan	M	cathal@slig.co.uk
UK	Jo Holt	vtalent	F	jo.jaws1@btinternet.com
Romania	Mihai Sebe	Association for Supporting Civic Initiative	M	mihai2609@gmail.com
Romania	Elena Musca	CENTRUL DE RESURSE PENTRU COMUNITATE	F	ginoashk@yahoo.com
Romania	Corina Pintea	Pro Vobis National Volunteer Centre	F	corapintea@gmail.com
Italy	Carlo Diana	Assemblea Legislativa Regione Emilia-Romagna	M	carlodiana2002@yahoo.it
Italy	Luca Sparnacci	PROVINCIA DI PISTOIA	M	l.sparnacci@provincia.pistoia.it
Italy	Enika Bushi	Eurosapiens Youth Organisation	F	enika512@gmail.com
Albania	Olsi Duzha	Beyond Barriers Association	M	olsduzha@yahoo.com
Bosnia Herzegovina	Dean Katic	AFS ISU BiH	M	dex_bl_city@hotmail.com
Serbia	Drazen Zacero	Association for alternative family care - Familia	M	zacero23@yahoo.com
Ukraine	Volodymyr Fedorenko	Expert-Training	M	vlfedor@yahoo.com
Russia	Kirill Onishchenko	Information Centre of the town of Kingisepp	M	townday@mail.ru
Belarus	Pavel Chuduk	BPF party	M	pavelthewonder@gmail.com

ANNEX 2. Wire of questions

- On grounds should EU citizenship be defined?
- Is it possible to build a Europe with no borders?
- Is EC only a geographical question?
- Which mafia stands behind EC idea? (if COE than why is it not in pillars of this org.)?
- What link between EC and young people with less opportunities?
- What can EC bw used for?
- How we can share the EC with people easily?
- European passport?
- Partnership with open agendas!
- How long will it take until all people living in EU will really feel european?
- Vuvuzelas problem
- Transmit rules of law
- What is fake in EU (Bulgaria, Greece problems)?
- Is EC a matter of rights only or there are or should be some obligations as well?
- Use of constructing a European identity for EU citizenship and the future integration process
- Where ends stereotypes and begins real diversities?