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SOCIAL MEDIA IN ACTION FOR PEACE

September, 29^{th} to October 7^{th} , 2012

NICOSIA, CYPRUS

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

<u>WHY?</u>

Because we believe that:

- Social networks are a new and exciting field, which offer a lot of space for creativity, invention and imagination in developing youth led projects;
- It would be difficult to convince young people to disconnect and come offline, hence youth leaders might as well learn how to use social networks in order to engage young people;
- Peace building is always in need for new initiatives and creative approaches and social networks are a field to be explored;
- Social networks bring a new dimension to intercultural learning and international cooperation as a whole.

WHAT?

The main goal of the project is to develop competences of multipliers to plan and promote youth led peace building projects with high impact on their peers and the local communities through use of social media tools and methodologies.

More specific objectives are:

- To learn about the background, concepts and strategies of social media and critically and creatively reflect on its advantages and disadvantages;
- To reflect on non-formal education and its methods and their applicability within social networks;
- To explore possibilities for utilisation of social media for youth activism in the field of peace building;
- To facilitate the exchange and the sharing of experiences in the field of youth activism in peace building;
- To understand the basic concept of advocacy and its connection to peace building;
- To develop creative and attractive ways to apply social media for youth activism, with a special emphasis on peace building;
- To design and develop an action plan for use of social media for youth activism in peace building;



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FOR WHO?

For 26 youth leaders from Cyprus, Croatia, France, Kosovo, Macedonia, Spain, Serbia, Montenegro, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, who:

- 1. are working with other young people in their everyday reality
- 2. are active on social networks and are interested to explore their use in youth work
- 3. have knowledge and practice of non-formal education and learning
- 4. have at least basic knowledge about peace building
- 5. are interested in developing social media projects for peace building
- 6. have basic IT skills and are not afraid of experimenting with the computers :)
- 7. are committed to applying their newly gained skills in their communities and within their respective organisations

Dynamics of the training course

The training has three integrated learning phases:

1. <u>Introductory phase</u> (preparation for the course) through distance e-learning, starting from **August 20**th **till the beginning of the residential training course**

- 2. <u>Residential training course</u>, from September 29th to October 7th in Nicosia, Cyprus
- 3. <u>Follow-up phase</u> through distance e-learning, starting from **October 15th to November 15th**.

BY WHOM?

Hope for Children works on humanitarian and development policy relevant to the defence and promotion of children's rights. It does so through research, grass roots programme design and implementation and advisory services offered to governments and international organizations.

HFC is carrying out a variety of projects with the aim of achieving greater social inclusion through the creation of a strong civil society. It is the organisation that acts as the national focal point for unaccompanied children residing in Cyprus, as well as for missing children. Additionally, it implements campaigns to address violence perpetrated against children, abuse, bullying and all forms of exploitation. Hope For Children is also the operator for the European harmonised Child Helpline and Missing Children Helpline in Cyprus.

We cooperate with national, regional and international advocacy institutions working to reform child welfare systems on behalf of children who depend on them for protection and care. The permanent staff members bring both a local and international perspective to the team, with experience of working with local and international Civil Society Organizations and have experience of civil society development strategies, campaigning and advocacy work, international development and human rights.



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Costs

This project is funded by **the Youth in Action Programme**. According to its rules, all costs of board and logging will be covered by the organisers. In addition, Hope for Children is going to reimburse 70% of the participants' travel costs, upon the receipt of all original tickets and invoices.

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If you are interested in taking part in the "SOCIAL MEDIA IN ACTION FOR PEACE"
training course, please fill in the application form and return it completed, not later than July
29th, 2012 to Rafaela Camassa at <u>info@uncrcpc.org</u> !
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