

Europe in transition: Perspectives on cultural diversity in a changing Europe (working title)

Call for Chapter Contributors to a SALTO Cultural Diversity publication - a collection of analytical think-pieces and practice examples on cultural diversity in contemporary Europe.

In the ten years since the crisis in financial institutions led to economic recession, Europe has seen profound social change. Young people have been particularly affected – by endemic levels of unemployment, lack of access to housing and an overall sense of exclusion from decision-making. The arrival in many European countries of large numbers of migrants – of whom the majority are young people – has further strained relations within families, local communities and nations.

This is the context for widespread debate on what it means to be European, how Europe sees itself and how young people in Europe see their future. *Diversity* – by no means a new phenomenon in Europe – is the term often co-opted by commentators and opinion-formers from different parts of the political spectrum to support their own vision of Europe.

What role is there in such debates for youth workers and others with responsibility for young people's non-formal learning? How can they prepare themselves to support young people in responding to Europe's increased diversity? What kind of access to information and ideas on diversity will meet the needs of young European citizens – in developing their sense of purpose, ability to connect with others and confidence in their own identity?

Aim and objectives of the publication

SALTO Cultural Diversity will publish **in December 2017** a series of think-pieces and case studies on cultural diversity in contemporary Europe, in order to encourage and inform dialogue among youth practitioners and youth organisations.

The publication is also intended to:

- **Inform and provide insight** on issues and approaches in relation to cultural diversity
- **Engage and encourage** readers in critical reflection
- **Challenge** readers in their assumptions and inspire action
- **Contribute to policy** by stimulating discussion and recommendations
- **Promote diversity and inclusion** in countries across Europe.

The primary audience will be youth practitioners and other professionals with responsibility for young people's non-formal learning. A broader audience will include: educators, policy influencers and decision-makers, researchers, social activists, youth and community workers.

A common template for reporting the examples of practice will be provided. Due to budgetary limitations, contributions cannot be paid. The publication may provide visibility to chapter authors, including NGOs (e.g. logos, pictures where applicable can be included).

Submission Guidelines

We welcome

- **Practical case studies** examples between 500-1500 words
and/or
- **Analytical think-pieces** between 1500-4000 words.

Practice examples represent a short contribution describing services, community or school/youth projects, and engagement of diverse groups in policy processes, advocacy initiative or any other occasion when different tools and approaches were used to engage and empower young people in culturally diverse communities. These can refer to successful initiatives or ones which had limited success but lessons were learned for future development.

Think-pieces are expected to be an in-depth analysis or reflection on a situation, theory or policy. They may be in the form of an academic article, analysis of data or an interview. These contributions can be based on original research or previously published material, in which case the source should be acknowledged and copyrights respected.

Topics can be addressed through analysis of data, case-studies, impact assessment or critical reflection. Contributors will be expected to describe challenges in aspects of diversity and approaches that have shown a positive impact on young people's empowerment, initiative and democratic participation. Contributions can draw upon experience in all forms of youth and young people's non-formal learning – including in arts and sport. The publication will also list published and online material to support practical follow-up.

Topics to be covered, with particular reference to young people, include:

1. Diversity and identity – including the impact of gender
2. Diversity and disability
3. Human rights – awareness and use of legal frameworks
4. Inter-cultural and inter-faith dialogue
5. Peace-building – especially in societies emerging from or vulnerable to conflict
6. Refugees and migrants – including the situation of established minorities
7. Resistance to diversity: discrimination, racism and xenophobia
8. Social enterprise and minorities

Contributions can cover one or more of the topics from this list, or any other issue not specifically covered by these but falling under the broader area of cultural diversity.

Interested contributors are encouraged to express their interest with a short abstract of 150-250 words to be sent by **Monday 13 November 2017** (midday UK time) to Elena Lazarou and/or Miro Fernandez (email diversity@salto-youth.net or Elena.Lazarou@BritishCouncil.org). Contributors should also give details of their organisation or institution and brief details of their role and their professional background. Please feel free to get in touch if you have any questions.

Contributors will be notified by **Monday 13 November** if accepted, and will be provided with further guidelines for the full length article. The final draft contributions should be submitted by **Monday 20 November**.

The publication will be published in mid-December 2017.