

WHY THIS PROJECT?

Climate change represents a global threat that is already having devastating and irreparable consequences on the economic, social, and environmental systems. In the context of the climate crisis, the fashion industry plays a significant yet often overlooked role.

Fast fashion poses an escalating threat, and its long-term impacts disproportionately affect young people. Fast fashion has created a culture of disposable clothing, where new collections are churned out at an alarming rate. This relentless production cycle demands vast amounts of natural resources, contributing to severe environmental degradation. The fashion industry is now one of the largest polluters in the world, responsible for 10% of global carbon emissions. The rivers are contaminated with toxic dyes and microplastics, while landfills overflow with garments that decompose slowly, releasing harmful chemicals into the soil and air.



Beyond the environmental impact, the human cost of fast fashion is devastating. The pursuit of ever-cheaper production has led to the exploitation of millions of workers in developing countries and not only. These individuals, often women and children, work in unsafe conditions for meagre wages, devoid of basic rights and protections. It is unacceptable that in the 21st century, we still tolerate modern-day slavery in the name of fashion.

Fast fashion encourages a culture of overconsumption and overproduction. We are bombarded with the message that our worth is tied to the latest trends, leading to a cycle of constant purchasing and disposal. This throwaway culture not only depletes our planet's resources but also undermines the values of quality and longevity in the products we buy.



BY ATTENDING THIS TRAINING COURSE THE PARTICIPANTS WILL:

- Have a solid understanding of what Fast Fashion is in our modern society;
- Be able to explain the implications and connection of Fast Fashion Industry and Sustainability, Environment, Climate Change, Workers Right, Gender Discrimination and more;
- Develop their critical thinking regarding Advertisement and the Media's influence on the life of young people as well as Greenwashing techniques;
- Develop practical skills in facilitating learning spaces for young people on the topic of Fast Fashion and its global implications;
- Be motivated to transfer in their day-to-day life the core learning of this training;
- Be more critical about the consequences of overconsumption and overproduction as reflected in many areas of our current life;
- Be prepared and confident to foster a culture of responsible consumption (beyond the topic of Fast Fashion) in their work with young people.

The course is strongly based on experiential learning principles and philosophy, with adequate time allocated for debriefing and reflection throughout the whole program. The working methods used are chosen to offer the possibility of equal involvement of each participant and every person would be engaged actively in the process. The training activities are flexible and adaptable to group needs taking into account the reactions of participants, their feedback, their expressed needs, their experience and the way they will work as a group.

The learning process will be guided and facilitated by <u>Andreea-Loredana Tudorache</u> and <u>Elena Stevkovska</u> who carry a deep passion and belief in personal change concerning big global issues. They have developed and engaged in numerous projects touching on global problems from multiple lenses and using various methods to bring important topics to the attention of regular people. They have used street and online campaigning, non-formal education methodology as well as Theatre of the Oppressed methods to touch on topics such as global interdependencies, responsible consumption, sustainability, sustainable lifestyle, climate change, human rights, etc. always with a critical and deep perspective and with a strong focus on highlighting the role and power of each individual.

DO YOU WANT TO TAKE PART IN THIS LEARNING OPPORTUNITY? THIS IS WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

- Members or close collaborators of active Youth Organization (staff or active member, paid or not). The organization should have a valid OID number (we will sign partnership agreements with the sending organization).
- Willingness and motivation to be involved in the partner organization for at least one more year after the project.
- Enthusiastic youth workers who are motivated towards taking a strong lead in designing and/or facilitating meaningful learning experiences for young people on the topic of Fast Fashion and Responsible Consumption.
- People who have a strong belief that individuals, through changes in their day-to-day lives, can influence global problems.
- Good command of the English language;
- People older than 18 years and with a legal residence (proven by valid documents) in the country they are currently residing in.



IMPORTANT TO HAVE IN MIND BEFORE DECIDING TO APPLY:

- If you do not provide an OID number your application will be considered ineligible.
- Your organization should be based in the same country as you are currently residing in. If your situation is different you might not be eligible to participate in the course.
- **Double-check the eligible countries** from which we can accept participants. Do not apply if you do not currently reside in one of them.
- For this training, we prioritize a quality and intensive learning process. There will be 6 hours of learning sessions every day and 1 half a day free from sessions in the entire training. There will be no trips or organized excursions offered each participant will organize their free time as they wish.
- **Global problems** are complex and require holistic solutions for fostering long-term changes. One single training cannot ensure quality learning outcomes in all points of action in this problem. **This particular training focuses on the Consumer of Fast Fashion and what the Consumer can do**. Of course, systemic solutions and advocacy efforts are also needed and other learning opportunities may focus on that.

EXPENSES

- The board and lodging for the training course are fully covered by the local organizers during the period mentioned in shared rooms and no exceptions will be made (2 to 3 people in one room). Food will be served as a buffet (except lunch) and it will accommodate allergies, medical conditions and committed life-style decisions BUT NOT personal preferences or things you are flexible with.
- Each participant is free to choose the preferred way of travelling. Due to the organizers' policies, we strongly encourage the use of green travel, especially from the neighbouring countries to Poland. If flights are used for more than 50% of the total travel distance (roundway) the maximum budget allocated available will be from the Non-Green travel category!
- <u>Use this website</u> (https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/resources-and-tools/distance-calculator) to find out your distance. **This is the official (and only) website to be used in order to determine the distance.** Write at the START, your location, from where you will start your travel and at the END, Laliki, Poland. You will get a km number as a result which will correspond to financial support which you may get for your travel costs.



THE INDIVIDUAL MAXIMUM BUDGET FOR TRAVEL, PER PERSON, IS THE FOLLOWING:

Distance Range	Green Travel Cost	Non-Green Travel Cost
10 - 99 km	56 EUR	28 EUR
100 – 499 km	285 EUR	211 EUR
500 – 1999 km	417 EUR	309 EUR
2000 – 2999 km	535 EUR	395 EUR
3000 - 3999 km	785 EUR	580 EUR
4000 – 7999 km	1188 EUR	1188 EUR
8000 km or more	1735 EUR	1735 EUR

THE HOSTING ORGANIZATION



Uskrzydlamy/We add Wings is non-governmental, non-profit organization which was founded in 2007. Since that time they organized a lot of national and international projects on the topics of bridge building, active citizenship, entrepreneurship, inclusion, intercultural dialogue, theater, music, democracy, street campaigning and change making.

Their mission is bringing positive change to the community and especially youth; tolerant, open-minded society, inclusion of vulnerable groups, social activism, gender equality, development of skills and competences of young people and youth workers, development of entrepreneurial education, recognition of non-formal learning, promoting volunteering and intercultural cooperation and solidarity, contribution to the strengthening of youth to become active in their own community, promotion of non-violent culture /culture of peace, sustainability and ecology.

For this training the person in charge with reimbursement, logistics and overall support will be **Agnieszka Zawiślak**- vice president of the organisation, project coordinator (Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps), trainer, facilitator and coach, author of educational guides and methods, group leader, youth worker.

We are taking the application process very seriously and **we believe in the importance of personal input and honesty** in the answers in the application form. Therefore, we want to **strongly discourage of using Al-generated content** in your applications. This can lead to your disqualification or at least negatively influence the evaluation of your application.

If you decide to apply, we would appreciate if you **approach the application process** with honesty, integrity and dedication. We are curious about your unique perspectives, experiences and motivations to be part of the training course, and it is of high importance to us. Feel free to ask any additional questions to the contact person (mentioned next) if you are not sure if this training is suitable for your learning and professional needs before deciding to apply.

Elena Stevkovska stevkovska elena@yahoo.com

Thankyou for reading!





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