

“Back and Forward” Empowerment for transition from YiA to Erasmus +

What is “Back and Forward”:

“Back and Forward - Empowerment for transition from YiA to Erasmus +” is a training course which will focus as its name says on looking BACK and valuing the importance of the Youth in Action Programme that lasted from 2007 to 2013 and gathering the “fruits” that could be used as a rich base for the FORWARD – the new programme Erasmus +.

Knowing that youth in Action was a program which allowed people, organizations and various institutions to make a long path in building a Europe grounded on knowledge, citizens, citizenship, inclusion and participation through learning opportunities based on a very effective methodology of non-formal education, we believe that these experiences were valuable source of competencies and knowledge that can be used and transferred into the activities of the new programme.

Having in mind that the transition as always in life brings worries, uncertainty and questions, but instead of being worried in times of change, we can also take a different position and see how the previous experiences can empower us to continue contributing on building the society grounded on knowledge, citizens, inclusion and participation. That’s why the main aim of “Back and Forward” training course is to gather youth workers, trainers, project managers and other practitioners in the field to reflect and discuss on what the Youth in Action Programme gave, to remark the values of it, to raise awareness on its huge heritage, and then with this awareness to look at the future through the new programme.

Aims and objectives:

The purpose and main objectives of "Back and Forward" are to:

- Analyze and reflect on projects and experiences as part of YiA
- Discuss the strengths and weaknesses we got through these experiences
- Plan how to use the knowledge and skills acquired from YiA with new program Erasmus +
- Reflect on how the specific methodology of the YiA programme, non-formal education, is an element that makes the difference in the learning process and how it could be used further
- Strengthen the partnerships between the organizations and plan in a long-term vision and perspective
- Promote concrete project proposals amongst the participants within the guidelines of the new program
- Get more information about the plans for the EU 2014-2020

Topics:

Gathered experience through YiA,

Reflecting on how we can use it in the new programme –

Empowerment, Non-formal education and its recognition – Youthpass,

European context,

Ideas for the future based on previous experience such as building partnerships and networks, continuing projects within guidelines of Erasmus +.

Methodology:

Timetable:

	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5	DAY 6	DAY 7	DAY 8
7h00		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9h30 (3h30)	Arrival	Who are We Intro to the Training Course Expectations	Looking back EUROPE: what about our common house?	Looking forward Erasmus + All that we know	Looking forward Erasmus + program: NA input	Looking forward Building partnerships	Youthpass , a tool for Recognition of Youthwork in Europe	Departure
13h00 (2h)		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	
		Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest	Rest	
		Group Building	Non-formal education , a method which makes the difference. Focus on the methodology of YiA	Erasmus + Pillars: focusing on priorities and objectives	Exchange of Expertise amongst participants Setting the frame for future cooperations	Building project ideas	Final Evaluation Closure	
Our Context – defining a Common Understanding..		Youth in Action stories: sharing organizations experiences						
18h00 (1h)		Reflection Group	Reflection Group	Reflection Group	Reflection Group	Reflection Group		
19h30	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	
20h30	Official Welcome	Free Evening	"once in Youth in Action.." (sharing personal stories from YiA)	Free Evening	"If my life would be a novel.." (Interpersonal night)	Free Evening	Farewell Party	

The team of trainers:

Panayiotis Theodorou – Cyprus panayiotisth@gmail.com <http://www.salto-youth.net/tools/toy/panayiotis-theodorou.1273/> **Milena Lazic – Serbia** lazicmilena@yahoo.com <http://www.salto-youth.net/tools/toy/milena-lazic.2307/>
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Panayiotis Theodorou is a teacher in profession plus a project manager and trainer within a developing local Cultural NGO. Always ready for new challenges. Interested in the process of learning for both youths and adults. Believes in the power of cooperation and communication within trainings and workshops which aim to quality learning and empowerment of people by sharing.

His work within the training world is guided by the following:

- to want by choice
- to give without take
- to share to the depths

Milena Lazić is European consultant and trainer with a background in Psychology and Trainings in Life Long Learning and Youth field. She has worked as a trainer since 2002 and cooperated with different organizations on national and European level. At the moment she mostly designs and delivers trainings in the scope of:

- intercultural dialogue and learning
- methodology of non-formal education
- personal development (such as conflict transformation, communication skills cooperation and team work, leadership, etc.)
- coaching and mentoring
- civic inclusion and participation
- youth work

Target groups that she mainly works with are adults and young people. She lives and works in Belgrade, Serbia.

Salvi Greco is a cook trainer or cook and trainer. In a past his goal was to make people feeling good, while staying around a table, bringing sense of wellness and sharing, tasting food in harmonic combination between ingredients, drinks, feelings, cause eating is not just a matter of food.

Now his goal is still the same: making people feeling good, while staying in a room, working around innovative educational approaches, social inclusion, active participation, citizenship, in harmonic combination with different backgrounds, cultures, feelings, cause education, learning, developing yourself is not just a matter of going in the best university. All of this is ideally framed by 3 main guiding quotes:

- “when you cannot answer a question, start to love the question” (Harry Mulish)
- “everything you know is wrong” (AA.VV.)
- “I started learning when I finished my studies” (Salvi G.)