



## SUMMARY

Concepts of intercultural learning (ICL) are often focused on preparing individuals to get ready for an encounter with something that is different than their usual environment. To categorize these differences a traditional concept of culture is often applied, which implicitly assumes a strangeness during the encounters of people with a perceived different cultural background.

The proposed project "Meeting the other" wants to address those aspects in a new light by choosing a different starting point. Instead of focusing on encounters, where people already assume a strangeness it will start from the basic human experience on how we relate to something, which is different from us. This will be handled on different levels, starting from the question what can be considered 'the other' in ourselves (as we often don't understand ourselves completely), over how we act towards differences in the outside world to how we react to strangeness and how we actually distinguish it from a general 'otherness'.

Apart from the related theme of ICL the project has a strong focus on personal development. One topic, which will be reflected on all levels is the limitation we set ourselves through fixed concepts and stereotypical perceptions. On a personal level this will e.g. include the exploration of situations in which we surprised ourselves and the habits which sometimes hinder us to think and act 'out-of-the-box'. On the inter-personal encounter it will relate to our limitations in perceiving the other as an unique individual through the constant comparison to previous experiences and the application of stereotypical images.

Although the project from a conceptual point will touch questions, which seem very abstract, the methodologies will be designed in a way to make the participants experience them in a playful way.

The projects will consist of two activities, which are strongly interconnected: The first activity will be a *training course* on above mentioned topics for multipliers who are working with young people in their local context. Some participants from the TC will then afterwards be invited to become group leaders and facilitators during a *Youth Exchange*, which will deal with similar topics but will give more space to the youngsters to reflect on them by making use of artistic forms of expression.

## GATES and KEYS: Meeting the other

### Call for applicants

#### COORDINATING ORGANISATION



**Narviksenteret with Red Cross War Museum (Norway)**

#### HOST ORGANISATION



**International Center for Intercultural Research, Learning and Dialogue (Armenia)**

#### PROJECT DETAILS

<b>Dates:</b>	TC: 10.- 19. April 2015 YE: 1.-14. July 2015
<b>Place:</b>	Aghveran (Armenia)
<b>Type</b>	KA1, Training + Youth Exchange
<b>Working language:</b>	English
<b>Involved countries</b>	Norway, Germany, France, Romania, Spain, Russia, Georgia, Serbia, Armenia, Ukraine

## OBJECTIVES

- To provide a chance for youth workers and young people to reflect on their encounters with 'the other' on different levels
- To provide participants the chance to tackle the topic of intercultural learning from a new and unusual perspective
- To provide youth leaders and youth workers with new skills and competences to support youngsters in their personal growth by exploring alternative ways of acting and thinking
- To give a chance to young people to reflect about personal topics through artistic forms of expression

## APPLICATION

Please fill in the following online application form until **3rd March**:

<http://tinyurl.com/lrwq2ax>

## PARTICIPANTS PROFILE FOR THE TC

- Youth workers and youth leaders interested in personal self-reflection and in tackling the topic of Intercultural Learning in an unusual way
- Having the chance to make use of their newly learned skills in their work with young people to ensure a multiplying effect
- Having interest and availability to become group leader of their national group for the related Youth Exchange, which will take place 1.-14. July in Armenia
- Being fluent in English

## CONTACT DETAILS

Oliver Wiechmann

**Email:** [meetingtheother@gmail.com](mailto:meetingtheother@gmail.com)

*Please note:* Active participation and preparation for the training is expected from all participants. You will be informed about the concrete preparatory tasks as soon as the selection of participants is done.