

**CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS for INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR
“BUILDING COMMUNITIES AND SOCIAL INCLUSION THROUGH FORUM THEATER”**

Date: 12th June – 20th June 2022
Venue: Struga/Ohrid, North Macedonia

Context of the seminar

Nowadays on political plan in European Societies can be easily noted the increased augmentation of nationalism, the intensification of stereotypes, the increase of feelings of xenophobia and racism and the increased marginalization and intolerance towards certain groups of people such as Roma and others. Many Roma and Non Roma youth organizations are asked to respond to these new needs and they are experimenting with new, innovative, methodologies. During this seminar we would like to explore how Forum Theatre can be used in Youth Work with Roma people as a tool for building a sense of community, raising awareness on current issues, promoting solidarity and social inclusion, and giving the motivation and will to the young people to become more active citizens.

Methodology

The methodology is based on NFE methods: using manuals such as COMPASS(new edition), Human Rights Education; Salto Toolbox; T-Kit-Social Inclusion etc. groups work, brainstorming, wall writing, association game, discussion, fish bowl, debate, case studies, role playing, simulation, audiovisual techniques.
Forum theater will be the main method.

Aim and Objectives

The main aim is to make Roma voice heard for issues that tackle their ordinary live, through involving volunteers to solve community problem which not only help to create the conditions for better and more volunteering, but which also contribute significantly to active citizenship and help reinforce a bottom-up grassroots movement through empowerment of citizens and communities, and strengthening our democracies and intercultural dialogue in the longer term.

To reach the general aim, the objectives are:

- To gain theatre skills necessary for understanding needs of socially excluded and marginalized Roma young people;
- To give information about important forms of exclusion with the explicit aim of breaking negative stereotypes against Roma;
- To experience human rights and social inclusion education activities and explore how to adapt them at local context;
- To motivate and encourage the young people to act as multipliers and promote initiatives that would foster inclusion of Roma marginalized groups;
- To share knowledge and experiences on challenges to combat marginalization and social exclusion faced by Roma young people.

Profile of the participants

Present will be Roma and non-Roma youth leaders, activists, multipliers, and volunteers who are working with young and/or Roma youth.

Participants must also:

- be familiar with the situation and challenges of the Roma community in their country;
- be motivated to develop their competences in advocacy, antidiscrimination work, human rights and to share their experiences with other participants;
- be aged 18+;
- be committed to attend for the full duration of the seminar;
- be able to work in English;

Travel

*******Any ticket before pursuing has to be approved by the coordinator organization – Institute for Roma and Minorities Integration.**

The travel costs will be reimbursed for the cheapest and direct way of transport and only under the condition that the participant will take part in the whole project. The travel costs will be reimbursed up to the certain amount according to Erasmus+ rules.

	Country	Number of participants per country	Amount in EUR
1.	Albania	2	180
2.	Bulgaria	2	180
3.	Czech	2	275
4.	Greece	2	275
5.	Italy	2	275
6.	Romania	2	275
7.	Slovenia	2	275
8.	Croatia	2	275
9.	Serbia	3	180
10.	Turkey	2	275
11.	Macedonia	3	180
12.	Germany	3	275
13.	Kosovo	2	180

All participants should aim to arrive at the hotel Ambient in Struga during the whole day on (Sunday) 12th June 2022 and depart on (Monday) 20th June 2022. To secure full reimbursement of travel costs, you should arrange your journey according to the agreed criteria with the organization in charge for the seminar. You are expected to attend for the full duration of the seminar. Only participants who fully attend the seminar will be reimbursed. Missing tickets will not be reimbursed. Do not forget to ask for invoice from the travel agency where will be clearly stated the amount of the ticket, if possible in euro. In case the amount is written in local currency, we will use the European commission calculator currency. Return tickets must all be provided – if you do not have the return part of you travel tickets, that part of your journey will not be reimbursed. TAXI is not reimbursed.

Those participants who will come by plane and land in the airport “Alexander the Great” in Skopje which is 10 km far from the city, to reach the bus station in Skopje you have to take an airport bus that are standing just outside from the airport building. Check the [airport bus schedule](#).

Further Rules regarding the booking of the tickets and reimbursement:

- Only the cheapest tickets will be reimbursed. We will not cover tickets with the deviation from the direct route, extra unnecessary stops and layovers. We don't cover se reservation fees, leisure plus tickets, flexible tariff tickets, extra travel insurances, priority boarding fees. When is needed only 1 piece of checked-in baggage preferably the ones that is included with priority check in – 8kg and usually costs around 5-10 EUR with WIZZAIR, will be covered;
- Only tickets purchased online will be reimbursed. We can't cover travel agencies' fees. Travel agencies invoices for the flight tickets won't be accepted for reimbursement;
- We can't reimburse taxi, only public transport will be covered;
- Travel with a car will be calculated on real consumption of petrol on 100 km including payrolls, vignette if any.
- You can arrive and depart in total 3-4 days longer than the official event's date if you want to spend more time in the host country on your own, provided that the tickets on these days are not more expensive than on the official travel days.

Online Check-in (per email in PDF) and electronic invoice are highly recommended.

*****KEEP ALL THE TICKETS, INVOICES, and BOARDING PASSES...**

MISSING TICKETS, INVOICES WILL NOT BE REIMBURSED. ***

Accommodation

The training course will be held at the [hotel Ambient](#), Struga where everyone will also be lodged.

Address : Hotel Ambient Plitishta,
 30 Struga 6330
 Republic of Macedonia

Participants will be accommodated in 2 and 3 bed rooms. No single rooms will be provided.

Hotel Ambient is 10 min. by walk away from the both bus station in Struga. Martinovski is a travel company that serves in direction Skopje-Struga-Skopje. They use their office as a bus station. Their office is exactly behind the cross road. When you will get out from the any of the two bus stations, you will see the cross road shown bellow. You should take the direction to CAFASAN. The Hotel AMBIENT is 5 min. walk from the left side. If you can not menage to find it, you can rich it by taxi which would costs 50-60 MKD no more, which is less than 1€ . Ask the taxi driver for the price before to get in the car. The taxi is not eligible for reimbursement.

HOW TO GET TO STRUGA FROM SKOPJE

After you arrive to Skopje bus station, you can take bus to Struga.

[Bus schedule line for Skopje-Struga](#) (app. 3 h journey)

Working language

The working language of the seminar is English.

DON'T FORGET

- ✓ PASSPORT;
- ✓ KEEP ALL TRAVEL TICKETS, INVOICES, BILLS AND BOARDING PASSES;
- ✓ COVID-19 Certification
- ✓ LAP TOP (if you have and think that you need, a Wi-Fi LAN is available in the venue);
- ✓ PROMO MATERIALS TO PROMOTE THE ORGANIZATION, YOUR PROJECTS;
- ✓ "STANDARD TRAINING EQUIPMENT": an ALARM CLOCK[Ⓜ], ANY DICTIONARIES (you might require), COMFORTABLE CLOTHES, etc.
- ✓ SOME AUTHENTIC MUSIC, FOOD, DRINKS OR OTHER ELEMENTS THAT IS SPECIFIC FOR YOUR COUNTRY OR COMMUNITY. THERE WILL BE INTERNATIONAL EVENINGS;

The weather in Struga (Have a look)

<http://www.worldweatheronline.com/v2/weather.aspx?q=Struga,%20Macedonia>

Currency in Macedonia

The domestic currency is the Macedonian Denars (MKD), 1 Euro = 61, 69 MKD.

Prices in Macedonia

About the prices, for example one "Pivo" (Beer) in bars and clubs cost from 70-100 (denars – MKD), but as everywhere in the shops is much cheaper.

How to communicate in Macedonia

The official language in Macedonia is Macedonian. In Struga you will be also understood in English. German and common Balkan languages are also used rarely. Few useful words in Macedonian for first days:

"Zdravo" means – (Hi)

"Dobro utro" – (Good Morning)

"Dobar den" - (Good Afternoon)

"Dobro vecer" – (Good evening)

"Blagodaram" – (Thank you)

"Da/Ne" – (Yes/No)

"Izvini" – (Sorry)

"Do gledanje: - (Goodbye)

"Edno 'Skopsko' molam" -(One 'Skopsko' please) - "Skopsko" is popular Macedonian Beer)

Struga & Macedonia

Struga is a town in the western part of the Republic of Macedonia, lying on the shores of Lake Ohrid. The town is located on the coast of the magnificent Lake Ohrid and along the banks of the river of "Black Drim", which flows right out of the lake splitting the city into three sections. Struga is also a place of important cultural significance in the Republic of Macedonia, as it is the birthplace of the poet Konstantin Miladinov. The main event of the cultural life in Struga is the world's largest poetry gathering, Struga Poetry Evenings, attended every year by at least 200,000 people from all over the world. The festival inter alia bestows a Golden Wreath adorned with diamonds, sapphires and rubies, the highest award for one's overall poetry work. Matching shoes are also awarded to the winner. There are several cultural monuments in Struga and in its vicinity such as the Monastery of Kalishta, a few kilometers away from the town center, laying on the shore of Lake Ohrid. It is believed that it dates from the 16th century, with frescos from 14th and the 15th centuries. The church Sveta Bogorodica (St. Mary) in the village of Vranishta, is believed to be the one where Tsar Samuil was crowned. The church has many doors and far fewer windows and often the people call it "the kings church". The church of St. George is also located in the town; built on top of Samuil's Church, it has many icons from the 14th, 15th, and 16th century. Near the village of Ladorishta, a basilica from the 4th century has been discovered, with a Mosaic. Struga's old architecture, dating from the 18th and 19th century is also a cultural highlight. More info about Macedonia on www.exploringmacedonia.com

Application procedure

All interested applicants must to fill out the online [APPLICATION FORM](#) until 25th April 2022.

If you have question related to the training course please feel free to contact us on: erasmus.irm@gmail.com

GOOD LUCK 😊