



...will raise young peoples' awareness about multiculturalism as one of the greatest assets of the Western Balkans through building good neighborly relations, ensuring intercultural understanding between young people and decreasing negative prejudice and stereotypes among young people.... **for better Western Balkans !**



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Project “Rainbow Bridge”

Just like after the rain comes the sun and the rainbow, “Rainbow Bridge” project symbolizes the bridge that will be built between different communities living in the Western Balkans and the cultural links to be created between young people that will take part in project activities.

The project’s goal is to promote and facilitate intercultural dialogue and tolerance among young people from the post conflict areas and build partnerships that will enable active involvement and improvement of the multicultural youth work in the Western Balkans.

Our project purpose is to create an opportunity for young people of different nationalities coming from Macedonia, Albania and Montenegro to examine thoughts, ideas, and solutions related to prejudices and stereotypes. This project will give every participant a chance to think about prejudice and reflect in his mind the realities of it, and how they affects all of us in so many ways.

Project objectives are:

- ✓ To raise young peoples’ awareness about multiculturalism as one of the greatest assets of the Western Balkans through building good neighborly relations, ensuring intercultural understanding between young people and decreasing negative prejudice and stereotypes among them;
- ✓ To involve young people from Macedonia, Albania and Montenegro in a cultural exchange and provide them opportunity for intercultural learning. Enable them to recognize stereotypes and prejudices, inequality, injustice, and racism, and most important to understand the need of ending them;
- ✓ Ensure capacity building for youth organizations working in the field and young people involved in project activities for building better future for the Western Balkans.

Main project activities relate to

- Promotion of project web-site www.projectrainbowbridge.org
- Youth exchange “Rainbow Bridge”
- Local youth led actions in Macedonia (Kumanovo and Struga), Albania (Tirana and Pogradec) and Montenegro (Podgorica and Ulcinj);
- Photography competition and Moving exhibition in Macedonia, Albania and Montenegro.

Youth Exchange "Rainbow Bridge"

Where: Struga, Macedonia

When: 06 - 14 October 2018

Application deadline: 20th September 2018

General info about the Youth Exchange

The youth exchange "Rainbow Bridge" will gather 30 youngsters from Macedonia, Albania and Montenegro in the period 06 – 14 October 2018 in Struga, Macedonia. Youngsters coming from minority and majority groups, different ethnic, religious, political and social background will have an opportunity to work together towards building better Western Balkans for all.

Participants

- will work together with their peers in a non-formal environment on topics related to prejudices, stereotypes and discrimination,
- will present their culture and tradition and will learn about others,
- will gain skills and competences and be encouraged to take active part in civil society activities.

During the exchange these youngsters will learn more about culture, cultural diversity, minority rights, prejudices and stereotypes that exist, will gain skills that will ensure better future for them, will gain competences and knowledge on how to become organizer, facilitator and hopefully they will become mini-educators in this field.

Following the exchange, participants will organized local youth-led actions in Macedonia (Kumanovo and Struga), Albania (Tirana and Pogradec) and Montenegro (Podgorica and Ulcinj);

Partner Organizations

- Youth Association KREATOR, Macedonia
- Center for non-formal education, Montenegro
- Center for Development and Social Initiatives, Albania

Participant profile

- Are you a young person age 17-19 old?
- Coming from Macedonia (Kumanovo and Struga), Albania (Tirana and Pogradec) and Montenegro (Podgorica and Ulcinj);
- Are you committed to improve good relations and intercultural understanding in the Western Balkans, promote intercultural dialogue and tolerance and combat hate speech, negative stereotypes and prejudice among people?
- Do you have some knowledge and background in / or you are committed to learn more about multiculturalism, and intercultural work?
- Are you interested in learning about other culture and traditions in the Western Balkans, or learning about art or dance?
- Do you have a strong dedication to apply new knowledge and implement local activities in Macedonia (Kumanovo and Struga), Albania (Tirana and Pogradec) and Montenegro (Podgorica and Ulcinj);
- Are you able to communicate in English?

...than this is the right project for you !...

You can request an application form on the following email: exchange@projectrainbowbridge.org /
Application deadline 20 September 2018.

Important note: Organizers will make sure that gender balance is respected and equal opportunity will be given to both genders to take part in project activities. Each partner will also ensure that all ethnic groups belong to their community will be equally represented on the project. Final selection will be done by partner organizations involved in the project.

Selected applicants will be notified by email latest by 25 September 2018!

Additional information about the exchange in a nutshell

- There is no participation fee !
- Accommodation and full board menu will be covered by the project;
- Travel costs will be reimbursed to all participants based on their bus tickets and during local youth led actions in their own town – find out more in Travel costs section;
- Participants will need to sign statement for photo and video use;
- Parental Consent form is a must for underage applicants;

- Do not buy any tickets without approval from the partners from Macedonia, Albania and Montenegro!
- Travel health insurance is a must for all participants. All participants are required to purchase their own travel health insurance individually.

Financial Conditions

The project is funded by Regional Youth Cooperation Office – RYCO within its First Open Call for Proposals. The project budget will cover all costs related to accommodation and food and will provide travel refund of participant coming with the most economical way of transport.

In order to be eligible for travel reimbursement participants must take active part in the exchange itself and in the local youth led actions to be implemented after the exchange in Macedonia (Kumanovo and Struga), Albania (Tirana and Pogradec) and Montenegro (Podgorica and Ulcinj).

Do not purchase tickets without approval of the partner organization.

Max travel reimbursement per participant:

Participants from Kumanovo – 12 EUR return bus ticket Kumanovo – Struga

Participants from Struga – no travel costs

Participants from Tirana – 50 EUR return bus ticket Tirana – Struga

Participants from Pogradec – 20 EUR return bus ticket Pogradec – Struga

Participants from Podgorica – 90 EUR return bus ticket Podgorica – Struga

Participants from Ulcinj – 60 EUR return bus ticket Ulcinj – Struga

Travel costs will be reimbursed after the submission of all original tickets and during the local youth led actions that will be implemented in Macedonia (Kumanovo and Struga), Albania (Tirana and Pogradec) and Montenegro (Podgorica and Ulcinj). Taxi costs are not eligible for reimbursement. All costs above the limit will be covered by participants themselves. Reimbursement will be done in EUR regardless the currency indicated on the tickets. The following exchange calculation will be used for all calculations:

http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/inforeuro/index_en.cfm

There is no participation fee!

If selected for the project:

- You should organize your travel together with the organizations from Macedonia, Albania or Montenegro;
- As a team you will have a chance to present your culture and tradition. For this purpose you should bring some traditional food, snacks and drinks and you can make short Power Point presentation and presentation about the organization you represent; you can teach others how to dance your traditional dances, or sing a song in your language. We want to learn from each other about each other!
- You MUST bring good energy, motivation and good ideas. 😊

Workshops

The youth exchange will unite non-formal educative workshops whose main topics will relate to prejudices, stereotypes, hate speech, discrimination, intercultural understanding and dialogue. All workshops will be implemented through interesting and fun way using teambuilding, energizers, various games, role play, simulation, and creative work.

The time table also dedicates one day to dancing workshops and one day to art workshops. Detail time table will be sent to selected candidates.

Dance workshops

In the time table please note that we will have a full day of dancing. As a result we will prepare interesting flash mob ;). For this workshops you need to have conformable clothes in whom you can do some physical activities, sport and aerobic dancing. Also conformable shoes 😊



Art workshops

One day will be dedicated to art and painting on canvas. In case you have some previous work that you want to show to others in the group please bring it with you ;).

This project is financed by Regional Youth Cooperation Office – RYCO within its first Open Call for Proposals. For more information about RYCO please visit the following link: www.rycowb.org