



19th / 20th April 2016, Zollverein Essen, Germany

Education, Participation, Integration – Erasmus+ and Refugees

Transnational Cooperation Activity

Draft Programme

19th April 2016

Moderator: Paul Guest, orientra

09.00 – 10.00 **Registration and refreshments**

10.00 – 10.10 **Welcome Speech**

Klaus Fadle, National Agency Education for Europe at the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (NA at BIBB)

10.10 – 10.30 **Keynote**

Thomas Rachel, Parliamentary State Secretary to the Federal Minister of Education and Research, Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)

10.30 – 11.30 **Keynotes**

"Arrival in a foreign society – What can education contribute?" Rasha Abbas, Syrian writer and journalist

"Invisible Hands – Europe through undocumented immigrants' eyes" Ville Tietäväinen, Finnish graphic designer, illustrator and graphic novel artist

11.30 – 11.45 **Introduction: Workshop sessions**

Introducing the field-specific and the thematic workshops

11.45 – 12.00 *Coffee break*

12.00 – 13.30 **Parallel workshops, session 1: Field-specific workshops**

- Higher Education
- Vocational Education and Training
- Adult Education
- School Education
- Youth

13.30 – 14.30 **Lunch**

14.30 – 15.15 **Market place for projects: Projects viewing – discussion – active presentation**

(Erasmus+ and the former EU programmes for lifelong learning, youth and the European cooperation programmes in higher education)

- 15.15 – 17.45 **Parallel workshops sessions 2: Thematic workshops***
incl. coffee break
Workshop 1: Welcoming culture: Life in and with diversity
Workshop 2: Guidance and validation of non-formal and informal learning
outcomes and competences
Workshop 3: Bridges to employment
Workshop 4: Challenges and requirements for vocational and educational staff
Workshop 5: Intercultural learning and linguistic integration
Workshop 6: Civic education and Citizenship
Workshop 7: Personality and identity
*Below you find some detailed descriptions.

17.45 – 18.00 **Closing of the day**

from 18.30 ***Dinner and cultural programme***

20th April 2016

Moderator: Paul Guest, orientra

09.30 – 10.00 **Keynote Speech**
Chiara Gariazzo, Director for Erasmus+, Youth and Sport of the European Commission's
(EC) Directorate General Education and Culture (DG EAC) (tbc)

10.00 – 10.45 **Key statements from the workshops**
Voting of the audience

10.45 – 11.00 *Coffee break*

11.00 – 12.15 **Panel discussion:**
Refugees in Europe – Needs and gaps, challenges, policy learning
Participants:
European Commission (tbc)
Thomas Huddleston, Programme Director Migration and Integration,
Migration Policy Group
Dr. Karolis Žibas, Founder and Director of 'Diversity Development Group'
N.N.

12.15 – 12.30 **Concluding session: The way forward**
Statements of participants
Klaus Fadle, NA at BIBB

12.30 – 13.30 ***Social networking buffet and departure***

Thematic workshops

Workshop 1: Welcoming culture: Life in and with diversity

The development of a welcome culture is a crucial step towards the integration of international migrants. This applies both to international professionals as for refugees. Therefore, decision makers in education, politics, administration and in business are addressed when it comes to identifying challenges and opportunities of social, cultural and economic integration in order to contribute to the development and positive transformation of the host society. This workshop envisages to examine in which way Erasmus+ can support the development of a welcome culture and what has been achieved so far.

Workshop 2: Guidance and validation of non-formal and informal learning outcomes and competences

Guidance and validation of learning outcomes can be helpful tools to support refugees on their way into (further) education, into working possibilities as well as into society. How effective are these tools and models actually? What experiences do you have in working with some tools in practice? In which way can we improve them, bring them together, and develop them further? These are some of the questions we will discuss in smaller groups during the workshop, after a short presentation of a project in this field at the beginning. At the end of the workshop, we will conclude with some key messages concerning this topic.

Workshop 3: Bridges to employment

The entrance into the labour market certainly is one of the most difficult aspects for the integration of refugees in Europe: a negative development of the job situation in many European countries, the fear refugees taking away the few jobs from their own population, laws that prevent refugees from entering the labour market, the possible lack of language and skills are only some of the obstacles that stand in the way of a smooth integration. In what ways can Erasmus+ facilitate 'bridges to employment for refugees into the labour market? The workshop aims to look at good practice examples in different countries and discuss possible solutions for the mentioned difficulties.

Workshop 4: Challenges and requirements for vocational and educational staff

The arrival of a large number of children, young people and young adults – accompanied or not, alphabetized or not – from different countries of origin presents a great challenge for teachers. While the phenomenon itself is not new, the dimension of it is. In this workshop, we will discuss which challenges teachers and trainers face when performing the task to integrate young people with different backgrounds regarding origin and level of knowledge into the regular school or educational system as fast and sustainable as possible.

Workshop 5: Intercultural learning and linguistic integration

For most people, their first language belongs to the kernel of their identity – it is the means in which they started to realise themselves as individuals, as members of a family and social group, and in which they developed values important for their lives. The more people have to leave behind, the more important their first language is. It might be considered as the only stable element in their lives. Yet, linguistic skills in the language of the target culture are a key success prerequisite for any aspect of civic, social, cultural and especially professional integration of refugees and migrants: In the perspective of a receiving society, migrants might be considered as “speechless”, because they are not able to use the target language in proficiency which support their individual potential to become integrated in a satisfactory way. What is particular about integration through cultural learning and language acquisition in the case of refugees as compared to migrants? In which way do Erasmus+ activities contribute to facilitating language proficiency and thereby integration into a European target society?

Workshop 6: Civic education and Citizenship

The promotion of civic engagement and education for democratic citizenship are important objectives of European educational cooperation and the EU Programme Erasmus+. In the workshop „Civic education and Citizenship“ theoretical approaches as well as examples of practical implementation of educational strategies in formal and non-formal education will be presented and discussed. The workshop will focus on the question how the participation of the refugees can be improved and how a positive and constructive vision of life in Europe can be developed and mediated.

Workshop 7: Personality and identity

The more subject-orientated workshop should contribute to raise the nominal and also the content participation of refugees in formal and non-formal settings in different fields of education and will serve to describe how this can run. On the other hand it is to light up learning targets of formal and non-formal education in Europe that supports specific elements and aspects of Personality and Identity for the better participation of refugees.