



Co-funded by
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Project: 101088262 — GEAR

GEAR – Gender Equality and Antidiscrimination for Roma

CERV-2022-GE



Arci Solidarietà, Internationaal Comité, CSCD, Apel

Consolidated report

WP2, T2.1



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Description of task 2.1 Awareness raising among young Roma on gender equality. *This activity aims at promoting gender equality values among Roma young people (11-20) living situations of social exclusion (in camps, segregated neighbourhoods) through the realisation of street education activities led by educators and employed during the first twelve months of the project (M1-M12). To be able to gather audiences and participants, a multi-disciplinary team composed of educators and artists will promote the project activities and deliver a set of key information. Among the other activities, it will promote educational initiatives on gender equality, monitor potential risks of gender stereotypes and discrimination, establish a bridge among the partners and the target groups. The street education activities will also allow the identification of the young Roma (T2.3) who will be further involved in WP4 as agents of change. Partners (Arci Solidarietà, CSCD, Internationaal Comité, Apel) will realise up to 15 initiatives of 2 hours in each country in one year. (M2-M12)*

OBJECTIVE of WP2- T 2.1

- To approach Roma youth through fieldwork and direct contact with the aim of bridging relationships.
- To update the needs analysis gathering fresh fieldwork data.
- To report findings for the periodic assessment highlighting point of strength, criticalities and any other issue arising from fieldwork.

ITALY  **SOLIDARIETA**

GEAR



Calendar of Activities

Date	Activity	School or youth centre	Class	Time	Participants
10-lug-23	workshops outdoor +	Luogo Comune	Youth centre - Luogo Comune	15.00-18.00	6
02-ago-23	cinema	Caleidos	Youth centre - Caleidos	14.00-18.00	6
11-nov-23	workshops	Luogo Comune	Youth centre - Luogo Comune		9
13-nov-23	workshops	Luogo Comune	Youth centre - Luogo Comune		10
16-nov-23	workshops	IC Gramsci	2A	10.30/12.00	17
16-nov-23	workshops	IC Gramsci	2B	12.30/14.00	16
20-nov-23	workshops	IC Gramsci	2A	10.30/12.00	15
20-nov-23	workshops	IC Gramsci	2B	12.30/14.00	17
25-nov-23	workshops	I ragazzi del Muretto	Youth centre-I ragazzi del muretto		8
27-nov-23	workshops	IC Gramsci	2A	10.30/12.00	14
27-nov-23	workshops	IC Gramsci	2B	12.30/14.00	20
05-nov-23	workshops				10
06-dic-23	workshops	IC Gramsci	2B	10.00/11.30	19
06-dic-23	workshops	IC Gramsci	2A	12.00/13.30	13

Description of workshops

Workshop on Gender Stereotypes and Prejudices

10.07.2023



Trainer: Margherita D'Andrea

Using silhouettes, participants were encouraged to consider the various attributes associated with different genders. This creative activity effectively introduced the theme and provided a space for participants to explore a complex topic in a way that was both immediate and allowed for self-reflection. The exercise aimed to prompt participants to reflect on their own identities and perceptions of gender relations, avoiding stereotypes. The facilitator encouraged participants to contemplate the traits they personally identify with, fostering discussions comparing their perceptions. This facilitated the creation of an environment for exchange and the development of a shared understanding of prejudices and stereotypes. The feedback received from participants was overwhelmingly positive, indicating that the creative approach was engaging and thought-provoking.

Outdoor Activity: Watching and Discussing about the Barbie Movie

2.08.2023

Educator: Tiziana Buccoliero

The screening of the Barbie movie provided an opportunity for reflection on its narrative and themes. Following the screening, the educator highlighted the portrayal of gender roles, the evolution of Ken's character, and Barbie's journey in navigating the complexities of the "real" world, juxtaposed with the deconstruction of "her" world. This discussion encouraged participants to critically examine the story and its implications, prompting them to reflect on their personal experiences.



Laboratories in school – IC Gramsci

The same series of workshops was conducted in two classes, 2A and 2B, at the Istituto Comprensivo Gramsci in Rome. The workshops were led by educators Valentina Anzellotti and Tiziana Buccoliero. Each date and description correspond to the realisation of the same workshop during the same day in the two classes.

First meeting

16.10.2023 Street education activity with the Youth Center Luogo Comune

11 participants

Workshop on Words. During the workshop, we reflected on the value of words and how they carry different weight depending on the circumstances. Through the activity "Words as Stones/Words as Feathers," the participants were able to engage with each other, understanding how respectful and inclusive language is essential even in peer relationships.

Second meeting

11.11.2023 Street education activity with the Youth Center Luogo Comune

9 participants

Digital Drawing

During the digital drawing workshop, boys and girls had the opportunity to delve into the use of the Procreate program on the iPad, exploring its techniques. Starting from photos or paper drawings, they were able to create intricate creations across different layers.



Third meeting

13.11.2023 Street education activity with the Youth Center Luogo Comune

10 participants

Ceramics. During the ceramics workshop, the boys and girls learned basic techniques for shaping clay and creating small objects. After firing, the creations were painted and glazed, providing boys and girls with the opportunity to develop their creativity.



Fourth meeting

16.11.2023

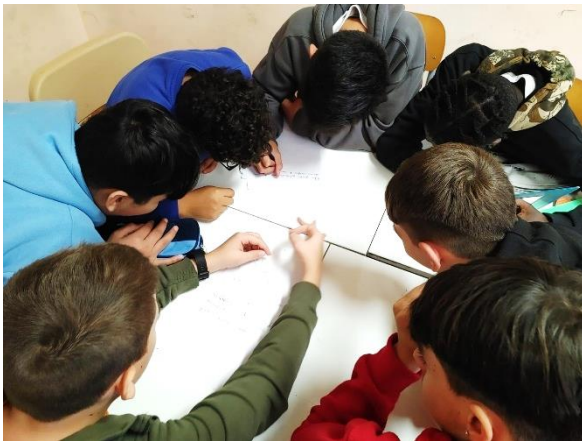
Collaborative reflection with the students centred around the phrase "Different is..." prompted by reading the illustrated book "Just as I Am" by Helene Druvert, published by Panini. This book served as the guiding thread for two sessions. Following a brainstorming activity, the students created collages exploring their personal perspectives on diversity, which were further enriched by previous discussions with their peers.



Fifth meeting

20.11.2023 & 27.11.2023

Subsequent sessions delved into the exploration of gender differences, offering activities designed to uncover gender stereotypes rooted in educational and cultural norms. Initially, participants were tasked with categorizing adjectives, distinguishing those they believed best described males, females, and traits applicable to both genders. This exercise, conducted in groups, sparked lively discussions among participants, culminating in a comparison of findings between groups at the end of the initial session.



Building upon this groundwork, the same groups engaged in another activity where they analysed images featuring neutral silhouettes representing various professions. Prompted with the question "Who do you think this person is?" participants dissected societal perceptions of gender and occupation. Furthermore, a list of professions was provided, and groups were prompted, mirroring the previous exercise, to determine which professions they deemed more suited to males, females, or both genders.

Throughout, participants shared their insights within their smaller groups before coming together in a plenary session for broader discussion.

Note: the work proved more challenging than anticipated, particularly in a classroom environment where one teacher's reluctance to facilitate equal expression among students.



Sixth meeting

25.11.2023 Visit to the Anti Violence Center of Spinaceto with the Youth Center "I ragazzi del muretto"

8 participants

On November 25th, on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, a group of boys and girls of the youth center "I ragazzi del Muretto" participated in the event held at the Anti Violence Center "Massimo Di Gregorio" in Via Stame 162. During the initiative, various activities were carried out, such as the screening of the film "La vita che verrà - Herself," which greatly excited the participants to the point that the following Monday they initiated a discussion at the Youth Centre with those who were not present at the screening. Considering the positive outcome of the participation, the coordinator of the CAV reported to the Aggregation Center team the intention to repeat another shared appointment to promote greater participation and in-depth exploration of the issues raised through the film and the various activities carried out during the day.

Seventh meeting

5.12.2023 Crochet Workshop

10 boys and girls

In a relaxed atmosphere, with background music, everyone works together on small crochet creations, which are made even richer by sharing personal experiences or discussing current topics. This methodology has proven to be successful in relaxing the kids and creating a safe space for storytelling and sharing experiences.



Eighth meeting

6.12.2023

In the final session, we revisited the themes explored in the preceding meetings. Girls were divided into groups, allowing everyone the freedom to express themselves outside the confines of the classroom.

They were tasked with representing what "masculine" or "feminine" meant to them through artistic expression, with many expressing a desire to recreate the collage. Notably, two girls who had previously felt somewhat constrained by the teacher's influence boldly expressed divergent thoughts from their previous session, highlighting the impact of the environment on individual expression.

Note: this firsthand observation underscored the significant influence of gender models perpetuated through education on girls in school.





BELGIUM Internationalaal Comité



Calendar of Activities

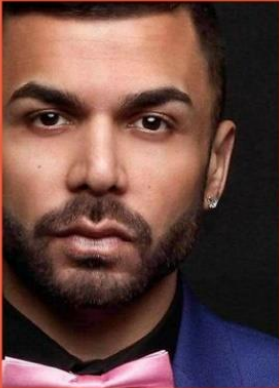
Date	Activity	Location	Group	Time	Participants
22/04/2023	Kick-off meeting/	Handelsbeurs Ghent		16 – 20 h.	300+
03/08/2023	Storytelling	IC-Office Ghent		15 – 19 h	7
29/08/2023	Project info	Broederij-Ledeberg		15 – 19 h	13
03/09/2023	Games & music	Broederij Ghent		15 – 19 h.	17
17/03/2023	Games & music	Broederij Ghent		15 – 19 h	10
08/10/2023	Eating, games & music	Broederij Ghent		15 – 19 h	17
22/10/2023	Exploring questionnaires	Broederij Ghent		15 – 19 h	19
28/10/2023	Story writing	Broederij Ghent		15 – 19 h	18
05/11/2023	Games & music	Broederij Ghent		15 – 19 h	15
11/11/2023	Story writing	Broederij Ghent		15 – 19 h	14
12/11/2023	Story writing	Broederij Ghent		15 – 19 h.	16
28/11/2023	Event What about us	De Centrale Ghent		14 – 22 h.	200+
22/12/2023	Christmass market	Market Ghent		15 – 19 h.	15

Date: 22 April 2023 - Ghent Location Handelsbeurs*Participants: 300+*

To make the GEAR Project we organised a major Kick-off meeting in the most prestigious cultural Hall of Ghent, De Handelsbeurs. To attract young people and their parents we invited a famous Slovak Roma singer Rico Sarkozy and local Roma artists. This activity attracted more than 300 persons (max capacity of the hall) from Ghent, Brussels, Ostend and Sint Niklaas. Also a dance group of Roma children got on stage and there was a positive atmosphere. We had the opportunity to briefly explain the GEAR Project to a large crowd and inform interested youngsters and parents. You can find the promotion video through this link <https://www.facebook.com/janetta.danyiova/videos/1380215856154099>


ZA 22 /04
HA CONCERTS
KOUTER 19 GENT


GRATIS
INKOM
OM 19U



RICCO
SARKOZI


ROMA MUZIEK






Danella

PROJECTGEAR IS EEN EUROPEES PROJECT
 WAAR WE SAMEN MET ROMA-JONGEREN AAN DE SLAG GAAN OM
 INTRAFAMILIAAL GEWELD TEGEN TE GAAN. DOOR MIDDEL VAN
 CULTUUR, VRIJETIJDSEACTIVITEITEN EN OPLEIDING WORDEN
 DEZE JONGEREN AMBASSADEURS OM MET DEZE THEMATIEK AAN
 DE SLAG TE GAAN.
 OOK IN ITALIË, BULGARIJE EN ROEMENIË WORDT DIT PROJECT UITGEROLD.



Internationaal
Comité



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AMARO VZW



GEAR

Date: 3 August 2023 (from 15u to 19u) - Ghent

Participants: 7 + 2

Storytelling: Information and welcoming GEAR project

Information and discussion. During the first meeting there were young people who were interested in the GEAR project. The meeting included all the information about the project and also a lot of information about the creative possibilities for the young people to develop and use their talents. Most of the young people were very enthusiastic about workshops such as drawing, photography and drama. Other young people were interested in music and dance. Together with the young people, a music and dance group was initiated, which will take place at a big event in November. The goals remained the same to address gender inequality through dance and art. Some of the children were very enthusiastic about music and set themselves the goal of forming a music group and preparing for the big event in November. Other children were enthusiastic about the music workshops and gave us all concrete ideas. Some young people had questions about the themes of the project, such as gender equality and discrimination. Not all of them were able to express their thoughts and feelings. Therefore, we had the opportunity to discuss both topics during these activities, with an additional incentive to decide what we would like to do. Now the young people were familiar with both issues. Some young people brought all their own practical experiences and encouraged us to reflect on what we had learned. At this meeting we met young people who had not yet acquired much knowledge, with hapjes, taartjes and music in the background. In the afternoon we talked about our first activity in another place in Ghent, where we discussed our first themes in combination with studio drawings. Young people aged 12 to 21 took part.



Date: 29 Aug 2023 (15h to 19 h.) - hosted by the facilities of non-profit organization Broederij - Ledeberg

Participants: 13 young people attended

Learning about the project and discussion

Young people from VZW Amaro Kher and those who received invitations on Facebook dropped by and were warmly welcomed with drinks and snacks. They were given more information about the GEAR

GEAR

project and quickly started to connect with each other. The young people appeared interested and engaged, eagerly looking forward to further participation in the GEAR project.



Date: Sep 3 2023 - hosted by the facilities of non-profit organisation Broederij - Ledeberg

Participants: 17 young people attended

Introductions, games, music etc. comments

Since the young people were not yet open with each other, we encouraged them to step out of their comfort zones by engaging in activities such as "Who Am I?" and chair dancing, along with our shared love for music. We noticed that the youngsters particularly enjoyed Roma modern music and became more willing to step out of their comfort zones.



Date: Sep 17 2023 - hosted by the facilities of non-profit organisation Broederij - Ledeberg

10 young people present

games, music, comments

Now that the young people felt more comfortable being themselves, it became easier to work and bond with them. Once again, we prepared snacks (hot dogs) and drinks for the young people, and they were very satisfied! We discussed the significant impact music has on Roma culture and how it represents the people. It was evident that music plays a significant role in their lives. Additionally, we organised games to help everyone become more comfortable with each other. It was a successful session.



Date: 27 Sep 2023 - hosted by the facilities of non-profit organisation Broederij - Ledeberg

17 young people present

questions, music, games comments

While the young people arrived, they were welcomed with drinks and snacks, and we sat down together. The young people already had questions about the project, indicating their readiness to engage with it. We initiated discussions about their experiences at home and the roles they have as Roma boys and girls. Through this exchange, we observed significant differences between genders in Roma culture. The young people understood each other and seemed to appreciate the opportunity to connect with others who understood their situations. However, they also became aware of the substantial differences between them. After this discussion, the young people had some relaxation time, playing board games such as UNO, Ludo, and 4 in a row, as well as enjoying their love for music.



Date: 8 Oct 2023 - hosted by the facilities of non-profit organisation Broederij - Ledeberg

17 young people present

Eating together, games, music

Now that the young people have formed bonds with each other, we organised an indoor picnic where we all gathered together. Everyone brought something from home, and we ensured there were plenty of drinks and snacks for everyone. It was heartening to see how much they had grown in such a short time. They all expressed a great deal of interest in the GEAR project and couldn't wait any longer to truly get started on it. However, before diving into the project, we took one last opportunity to completely relax with them. We did this by playing music together, dancing, singing, and of course, enjoying games.



Date: 22 Oct 2023 - hosted by the facilities of non-profit organisation Broederij - Ledeberg

19 young people present

Questionnaire regarding Gear (gender equality and racism)

We welcomed the young people back with some snacks and drinks, and then we all sat down at the table. The questionnaires of the GEAR project were distributed, and we went through each question together to ensure that everyone understood them. It was then the youngsters' turn to answer the questions individually. We noticed that there were two distinct groups. In group 1, some struggled with the questions and found it challenging to answer them. However, in group 2, which mainly comprised individuals from VZW Amaro Kher, most had no difficulty answering the questions as they had a different perspective regarding their belief in God. This observation was both interesting and challenging.

Date: 28 Oct 2023 - hosted by the facilities of non-profit organisation Broederij - Ledeberg

18 young people present

writing stories

We finally got around to writing their stories. This went a bit unevenly; some young people knew immediately how to write their stories and started right away. However, there were still a few who had some trouble with that. But to reassure everyone, we suggested that they could choose to pass on their story anonymously or not anonymously, and then everyone was much more at ease. Everyone then knew how they were going to write their story. When I saw this, I was quite touched by the young people. I was very proud of them, and I thought it was very brave that they wanted to share their stories with the world. I call this a successful day.



Date 5 Nov 2023 - hosted by non-profit organisation Broederij - Ledeberg

15 young people present

continued working, music, games

The young people continued working on their stories and approached me whenever they had questions or encountered difficulties. I was quite content with the young people and pleased that they were not afraid to ask for help when they needed it. Throughout the session, we provided snacks (croque

monsieurs) and drinks, allowing the children to enjoy some relaxation time, including their love of music and playing board games.

Date: 11 Nov 2023 - hosted by non-profit organisation Broederij - Ledeberg

14 young people present

improve stories

We are almost at the end of this project, and the youngsters were sorry that it was almost over. They were already thinking about future projects! They were all proud of themselves that their stories were finished; now it was just some improvement work! After completing the improvement work, we still enjoyed each other's company and played games like chair dance, who am I? etc....



Date: 12 Nov 2023 - hosted by non-profit organisation Broederij - Ledeberg

16 young people present

improving stories and evaluation comments

We put the finishing touches on their stories, and they were finally completed. The youngsters couldn't wait for the exhibition and were very curious. For our last dinner together, everyone brought something again, and we organised another indoor picnic. Then, we asked the young people whether they had learned anything through this project. They came to the conclusion that there is still a lot of work to be

done on gender equality in Roma culture, and as a generation, they are ready to tackle it. We were so proud that this project had such a positive influence on the young people and that they dared to stand up for themselves.



Date: 28 Nov 2023 - Location: De Centrale Ghent

Participation: 200+

What About Us

To conclude the first year of the project, we aimed to reach beyond the Roma community and engage with policymakers, Ghent inhabitants, and NGOs. We organised an exhibition showcasing the stories the children wrote, paintings created during the training sessions, concerts featuring both youngsters and Roma adults, and a debate with local politicians and Roma practitioners. This event helped raise awareness of the GEAR project among the public, and the young people were delighted to showcase their work to a wider audience.





Date: 22 Dec 2023 - Location: Christmass market Ghent

15 young people present

We visited the Christmas market in Ghent with the young people who wrote the stories. We had a nice time together with Christmas music all around, hot chocolate warming our hands, and delicious food stalls all around us. With all these things making us feel warm. With this activity, the young people realised what a multicultural city Ghent is and what a "home feeling" Ghent does create. Everyone dares to express their opinions here and feels safe here in Ghent. It was a fun day with the young people, and they enjoyed it.

BULGARIA



Center for Sustainable Communities Development

CSCD REPORT on the Street activities

					GEAR – Gender Equality and Antidiscrimination for Roma								
					CSCD Street education activities - SCHEDULE			March - June 2023					
MONTH	March	April	April	April	April	May	May	May	May	June	June	June	Summary
DAY	28.03.2023	7.04.2023	7.04.2023	18.04.2023	24.04.2023	10.05.2023	26.05.2023	30.05.2023	30.05.2023	8.06.2023	8.06.2023	9.06.2023	
PLACE	Medkovets Village, High School (HS)	Medkovets Village, HS	Montana City, Kosharnik	Medkovets Village, HS	Medkovets Village, HS	Medkovets Village, HS	Medkovets Village, HS	Medkovets Village, HS	Medkovets Village, HS	Medkovets Village, HS	Montana City,High School	Montana City, Kosharnik	
ACTIVITY	One-man show of the Roma actress Natalia Tzekova	International Roma Day: "Roma pearl" competition; humorous sketches in gender aspect	International Roma Day: GEAR project presentation; Discussion on "Male" and "Female" occupations at the labour market	Meeting-discussion with the journalist and director Valery Lekov about the radio and the professional path of the journalist	Celebrating the World Book Day: meeting with the writer Dimitar Petrov; playbook introduction, our favorite female characters in books and why	Role plays/ games with 7th and 8th grade youth using NEMO Toolkit; presentation of anti-discrimination on ethnic and gender grounds	A meeting with a teacher at the National Sports Academy, a conversation about the role of women and men in sports	Meeting with the youth foundation ARETE - presentation of their summer camps for Roma girls	Meeting with children's book writer Dobrinka Simova and discussion of love poetry	International Day for Protection of Children, Victims of Aggression: Valya Gerasimova - Secretary of the Local Commission for Combating Human Trafficking - Lecturer on	International Day for Protection of Children, Victims of Aggression: Valya Gerasimova - Secretary of the Local Commission for Combating Human Trafficking -	International Day for Protection of Children, Victims of Aggression: Valya Gerasimova - Secretary of the Local Commission for Combating Human Trafficking -	12 Street Activities
No. of PARTICIPANTS	147	134	10	119	108	20	45	32	83	14	31	10	753

March – November 2023

Objectives

1. To approach Roma youth through fieldwork and establish relationships of trust and partnership.
2. To update the needs analysis gathering fresh fieldwork data and to sow the first seeds of knowledge and sensitivity on the subject of the equality of boys and girls
3. To Identify participants for WP4 activities

Preparatory phase

1. A **multi-disciplinary team** was composed by CSCD staff and outside Roma educators and artists with the task to support establishing the future bridge among the partners and the target group
2. Specifying the region, settlements and schools where work will be done

CSCD decided to work in the region of Montana, Bulgaria. This region is popular with high population of Roma minority representatives. It is also one of the poorest regions in Bulgaria and in Europe. We focused our efforts to work in the deepest countryside, in the village of Medkovets. It is a small village (with approximately 1500 inhabitants) where Secondary School "Otets Paisii" is situated. In this school there are more than 200 students with near by 80 % of Roma origin. They are from different villages all around the region and they are travelling every day to school. Their grandparents take care for most of them, because their parents are working abroad, or just have left their kids behind. This students are well educated and they don't drop out of school thanks to their grandmothers and grandfathers, but in the same time they live in a very bad living conditions below the poverty line.

The second place where we focused our work was Kosharnik neighbourhood – one of the two Roma quarters in the city of Montana. There one school teacher organized a voluntary group of young people who often meet each other to discuss different topics, to clean the quarter, or to organize charity

initiatives for their neighbours. They study in different schools in the city of Montana together with non Roma students. They also live in a very bad living conditions even that their parents still live in the city, but many of them are unemployed.

There was also one street activity which was held in partnership with one high school in the city of Montana where we have also around 60% Roma students. We didn't proceed with this group of 31 students, because it was not homogeneous and some of the students weren't interested into the project activities.

The idea to combine the first 2 groups which were announced was to analyse the differences between Roma youth living in the city and these living in the villages, where there are less people to socialize with. In the same time there was an interesting comparison between their way of thinking and perception of men and women, because some of them have the example of their parents and the others – of the oldest generation of grandparents. GEAR Project: 101088262 — GEAR — CERV-2022-GE - T 2.2 Methodological guidelines and survey tools V. 2.0

3. Developing a Plan of Activities

Around half of the street activities, organized by CSCD were focused on Roma – Roma culture, tradition and ethnic specifics, but always touching the sensitive question of discrimination based on ethnicity. Half of them were focused on the relations between men and women, gender equality, women rights and women empowerment. The topics were carefully selected so that they were related to different international days and did not require young people to directly and immediately share their views. During the discussions and activities the team members of CSCD gain the trust of these young people and had the chance to cut into their world and way of thinking.

Part of the CSCD strategy was to invite guests of Roma origin in part of the street activities. They were motivators of the youths and experts in different areas. Their role was to inspire and educate our target group. We also started to work with larger groups in the first 1/3 of the events, later with the help of school teachers we started to work with groups of not more than 20-30 youths which were the most active ones.

For the period March – November 2023 CSCD has organized and held 16 Street activities with 810 participants (188 uniques).

Most of them – 12, were held in the "Otets Paisii" Secondary School in the village of Metkovetc.. CSCD established very friendly relations with the school authorities, which liked very much the project GEAR and its activities and became very supportive to their organization. They organized the survey included as a first step in GEAR project to be executed in the school using their inner internet platform. Other 3 events were held in the City of Montana – 45 km far from Medkovets village. One street event was organized in a High School in the City of Montana.

Street activities in details

A detailed explanation about each of the street activities which were organized and implemented during the period, you can read below:

1. One-man show "Gypsy Wheels" by Natalia Tsekova – 28 March 2023, Medkovets Village, High School; 147 participants

Our first meeting with the teenagers was in connection with the World Theater Day, and our guest was the actress of Roma origin Natalia Tsekova. In front of more than 100 children, she played several excerpts from her one-man show "Gypsy Wheels", which recreates the torment of a young Roma woman who tries to renounce her essence in the name of love.

The event was also organized in the form of a talk, with questions about self-discovery and self-knowledge, the social roles of men and women, and the dreams of young people.



2. International Roma Day in the village of Medkovets – 7 April 2023; 134 participants

On Friday (April 7), the day before International Roma Day, students, teachers and parents from "Otets Paisii" Secondary School, Medkovets village, organized a concert in connection with the holiday. During it, they presented various skits, dances, games and quizzes.

The purpose of the event was to get to know the roots of the Roma culture and, through humor, to pose the important questions for the community. A participant in the event was Nancy Borisova from the Center for Sustainable Communities Development, who presented the idea of creating the first youth European Roma web radio on the territory of the school.



3. International Roma day in Kosharnik neighbourhood, Montana – 7 April 2023; 10 participants

The volunteer youth group from Kosharnik quarter, Montana, led by Mr. Tashko Kirilov, was also introduced to the project. During the meeting with the 10 young people, their dreams and opportunities for realization were discussed, as well as their ideas for changing the place and environment in which they live. Some of the youth also expressed interest and willingness to work on the GEAR project and to develop skills in the field of audio media and gender equality.



4. Meeting with Valeri Lekov – a journalist from Roma origin – 18 April 2023; High School of Medkovets Village, 119 participants

The movie and theater director and journalist talked about his life and professional path so far - about life in the Roma neighborhood, work in theater and cinema, as well as in radio. The children were particularly curious about his short films, as well as the methods of making audio recordings and their processing. They are about to start working on their own online radio very soon.

Mr. Lekov's story about the road from the Roma neighborhood to national media and the significance of the school as an institution inspired and motivated the young people in particular.



5. Celebration of the World Book Day – 24 April 2023; High School of Medkovets Village, 108 participants

On April 24, nearly 100 children with an interest in reading and books gathered in the salon of Secondary School "Otets Paisii". The specially invited young writer Dimitar Petrov - author of the books "Ivailo - the Good King" and "Tervel - Born to Win" spoke with them.

The curious thing about his works is their genre – playbook. Each of the books is divided into episodes, and the decisions of the player (reader) depend on how the action will develop further in the game (book). In this way, readers are simultaneously entertained and learn new interesting historical facts. The children liked the idea of the different scenarios and possibilities for the development of the plot the most, because in practice they read not one, but hundreds of books with different endings.



6. Playing games from the NEMO Toolkit – 10 May 2023; High School of Medkovets Village, 20 participants

On May 10, 20 students participated in role-playing games prepared by Nancy Borisova from the Center for Sustainable Communities Development.

The goal was for each of them to get a character and take a step forward or backward depending on whether or not they could afford certain life benefits. Some were socially advantaged people in high official positions or with rich relatives, others were socially weak, mothers of many children, pensioners or disabled people. At the end of the game, everyone told the others what their character was and why they were ahead or behind the others. Together they had a discussion about what equality means and how easy it is for someone to become a victim of discrimination when they are at a disadvantage



7. Meeting discussion about men's and women's sports together with Prof. Tsviatko Tsvetkov from Vasil Levski National Sports Academy – 26 May 2023; High School of Medkovets Village, 45 participants

The guest talked about his life path and what opportunities the study at the "Vasil Levski" National Sports Academy opens up for him. The youngsters were particularly impressed by his stories about his school years in the village of Medkovets and the passion for the sport that led him to his greatest successes.

Nancy Borisova from the CSCD also took part in the meeting. Together with her, the students commented on the typically "male" and "female" disciplines in sports, as well as the sports successes of female and male athletes in Bulgaria in the last few years. Sport is increasingly becoming one of the most powerful platforms for promoting gender equality and empowering women and girls. Significant progress is also being made at the Olympic Games, where organizers are increasingly striving to balance the number of male and female athletes. All students were interested to see how the things will be in the next Olympic Games.



8. Meeting with Arete Youth Foundation – Roma foundation, which supports men and women from Roma origin – 30 May 2023; High School of Medkovets Village, 32 participants

On May 30, young people from "Otets Paisiy" Secondary School in the village of Medkovets met with the foundation's team and learned more about its activities, types of discrimination and opportunities for summer camps and camps for girls.

Hristo Hristov, a member of the "Arete" team, started the meeting with a role play, and then told the young people who he and the team are and what they do. He had prepared a number of examples from social networks, television shows and even the Bulgarian parliament to illustrate what discrimination is. Emphasis was placed on gender and ethnic discrimination.

Some of the students present had already been involved in the activities of the Arete Youth Foundation, and together with the guests, they shared their experiences at the summer camps that the organization organizes every year. This is far from all - the national camps for girls of Roma origin are a special highlight of the foundation's program.



9. Meeting – conversation with the writer Dobrina Simova – 30 May 2023; High School of Medkovets Village, 83 participants

On May 30, the author of a number of children's books presented some of her works to the students, and they participated in a dramatization of one of her stories.

Ms. Simova narrated the short version of her autobiography through her little listeners. She answers to their questions: how does one become a writer, what are poems, whether poetry or short stories are easier to write, has she always dreamed of becoming a teacher and a writer, what she dreams of now. She read to them her stories "The Weeping Cherry" and several of her poems.

Some of them advocated the topic of romantic relationships between men and women, thus opening up the topic of relationships between the two sexes and the ways in which they communicate.



10. Meeting-discussion in connection to The International Day for the Protection of Children Victims of Aggression in Secondary School “Otets Paisii”, Medkovets village– 8 June 2023; 14 participants

The invited by CSCD speaker was Mrs. Valya Gerasimova - secretary of Local Commission for Combating Human Trafficking, Montana.

The topic was bullying at school and particularly cyberbullying and how to protect yourself from it. Among young people, it often takes the form of threats and extortion, and sometimes violence in the real world. A large part of the young people is not aware of how to protect themselves in the event of such acts of aggression, and they also expressed that they do not trust the institutions as an authority in dealing with such type of problems.



11. Meeting-discussion in connection to The International Day for the Protection of Children Victims of Aggression in Vocational High School for Light Industry, Montana city – 8 June 2023; 31 participants

The speaker was Mrs. Valya Gerasimova - secretary of Local Commission for Combating Human Trafficking, Montana.

She explained to the young people what aggression is and what types of aggression there are. During the discussion, it became clear that many of the attendees had been or were currently victims of aggression, but rarely shared with teachers or parents. It turns out that girls are significantly more aggressive, and often they are not only victims, but also perpetrators. This fact is interesting and will be included in the forthcoming training on gender equality. Sometimes teachers also show verbal aggression towards children.



12. Meeting-discussion in connection to The International Day for the Protection of Children Victims of Aggression in Kosharnik district – 9 June 2023; 10 participants

The speaker was Mrs. Valya Gerasimova - secretary of Local Commission for Combating Human Trafficking, Montana.

Some of the attendees shared personal stories of violence in families, in their schools, neighborhoods or villages, and one of their main concerns was that often the aggressors go unpunished, and people who have complained about them can easily become victims again. Child marriage did not remain a taboo topic also. The tradition of selling brides is still alive, although young people are against it and are increasingly aware of the equality of women and men in the modern world. However, they claimed to be powerless in the face of established practices in their places of origin.



13. International Day of the Girl Child – a debate FOR and AGAINST child marriage – 11.10.2023; 9 participants

Youths from Kosharnik Roma quarter in Montana had the chance to see the short movie, produced by the CSCD project "Honour related abuses in a social and legal aspect". In the movie they heard the story of a Roma woman whose father tried to sell her for a bride. There is also a story of an older Roma woman who explains about the bride market, who gives the money and how much. She also explains what happens if it turns out that the bride is not a virgin and who has to return the money to whom. In the movie there are also legal experts who explain why this is not acceptable according to the Bulgarian law. After the movie we had a discussion and after it we split into 2 groups. The first group had to defend the tradition of child marriages, the second had to be against it. All youths didn't want to be in the group which defend the tradition, because they already knew that this is not something which they want for themselves and for their children. Anyway they found very good arguments to support their thesis – that child marriages is part of the Roma folk psychology and also that the young family will have enough time to create a partnership. The second group which was against child marriages was also brilliant and in only 2 minutes presented their arguments that this is something which will ruin the future not only of the girl but also of the boy, because early marriages leads to early birth and the boy also is going to be financially responsible for his family.

In the final stage of the debate there was time for questions from one group to another and they started to argue fiercely which was really positive, because they were vulnerable to this topic. Their feedback in the end of the event was that they need to speak more on these topics with more people around them, they shared the need to meet regularly and talk about such kind of traditions and the relationships in the family.



14. International Day of the Girl Child – a debate FOR and AGAINST child marriage – 23.10.2023; 15 participants

CSCD followed the same structure of the event as in the previous one. Here it was even more challenging, because we had larger teams of people FOR and AGAINST child marriages. There was also a third group which were “jury” and had to ask questions to both groups.

Once again we witnessed heated arguments and attacks, and it was a real challenge for the child marriage defense team to prepare their arguments. Here the strongest argument came from one of the boys who said that he is asking himself what kind of a father is the one who is ready to sell his daughter. The participants in the debate were between the ages of 14 and 18, and it was extremely impressive to see how some of them skillfully managed to think from the position of potential parents.



15. International Day of Tolerance: Discussion about tolerance between men and women and tolerance on the labor market; why school teachers are mainly women, how that effects youth – 16.11.2023; 13 participants

This was an open doors day for the school and many parents also came to hear more about the nature of the profile "Educator's Assistant" in the school. The young people presented essays and presentations on how they see the teaching profession and why they chose it in their career path.

After that Nancy Borissova from CSCD organized a discussion on the topic "Women in the educational system". It turned out that even the young people themselves are impressed by the feminization of the profession, as well as the relatively low incomes that female teachers receive. All agreed that the presence of more male teachers would have a positive effect not only on school discipline, but also on the youth's perception of the social role models of men and women. Among students in the 9th and 10th grades, there are still many boys who intend to realize themselves as teachers and educators.

Over 80% of teachers in Bulgaria are female, and nearly half of Bulgarian teachers are over 50 years old, which may be considered a concern.

According to the young people, there should also be more talk in school about the relationship between men and women and the distribution of social roles in a household and in the job market.



16. Coming up next: Discussion with the youths about the upcoming GEAR activities and their willingness to participate in them/ Ideas about the radio name and topics – 29.11.2023; 20 participants

Together with the most active youths during the whole year we set together and talked as friends what is coming up next during the second year of the GEAR project. They had serious questions about the multiplatform newsroom training and about the meeting in Sibiu. Some of them already had ideas about the broadcasts – who they can interview or what should be the topics. We decided that the youth radio will take place in the school in Medkovets and if youth from the other group in Kosharnik want to join, they can travel or be our reporters from the City of Montana. All youths who participated in the last meeting were so positive and motivated for the project. These who are in their last year in the school already has ideas to continue working for the radio and create an university online Roma radio. For the younger ones the biggest motivation to participate is to learn new skills and to start something for their school which they will leave to the younger ones.



Conclusion

Street education initiatives were an extremely important part of the project, because they laid the foundation for the relationship between the youth and the project team. Coming from a minority background and living in poverty, the youth we worked with are part of a severely marginalized group and it takes a long time and sustained work to build trust between stakeholders. We undoubtedly achieved this, because after each of our meetings, the young people asked when the next one would be, and each time they welcomed us more and more warmly. Gradually, they began to share their personal stories, dreams, hardships, fears with us.

The tool of non-formal education is extremely powerful when working with the specific target group. Conversations with guests coming from similar contexts and interacting with inspiring people shortened the distance between trainers and youth and proved to be very useful as an approach.

Throughout, the majority of young people demonstrated unexpected activity - actively participating in discussions and debates and expressing the need to talk about topics such as gender equality, civil rights, relationships, family fulfilment and careers. Some of them even shared that this was the first time that someone had asked for their opinion on such personal matters as the right time to start a family or who should own the family finances, why some professions or sports are characterized as male and others as female.

These street education initiatives started processes in the youth's minds, because as it is obvious in their personal conversations with the team they started to ask themselves questions that never came out to their mind before like to whom they can rely on in their personal life, who is their role model and why, what they look in the other person as a partner, etc.

Proof of the success of the initiatives and part of the positive feedback is that some of the young people discovered members of our team with their personal profiles on social networks and started looking for us on personal topics and questions. We received a number of invitations to events they organized and invited us as guest speakers, or just people to be there to give them encouragement and support. CSCD

staff members have been part of a jury in different competitions in the school in Medkovets, they joined Roma youths on a charity Roma concert in Sofia. Some of the youths are popular on social media and invited CSCD staff members for different interviews and video and audio products, which they created. Street education initiatives were very useful in terms of building a network between trainers and youth and building personal creations between youth themselves, because at many of the events they created a safe space where everyone could share his/her personal story and problems such as bullying, threats from parents or friends.

We can certainly claim that after informal events such as theatre, debates, games, etc. a good team has already been formed among the youth to lay the foundations of Roma radio. Each one of them is empowered by having gained indirect knowledge in the field of gender equality and human rights protection.

The team's observations during these 9 months of working with young people from marginalized Roma groups is that these are children with exceptional potential, with a lot of knowledge, ideas and many talents. The main problems facing their development are low self-esteem and persistence in carrying out the assigned tasks.

Youth radio will help them learn to express themselves, thanks to it they will gain self-confidence that they need to be heard, understood and supported. During the events, the team was repeatedly asked why it deals with Roma youth in the poorest part of Bulgaria and what brings them to them. They were challenged many times to use their ingenuity, to show their strengths, to learn to speak in front of an audience and to create an audience to believe that they matter and it is up to them to change stereotypes about women, about Roma, about people from the villages.

The street education activities in Bulgaria started a huge process which we believe later will transform not only on local, but also on national level, because these young people are going to be a real Agents of Change for their communities.

Here is the list of youths who were selected to participate in the next phase of the project:

1. Ivo Ivanov Spasov
2. Borislava Ivanova Spasova
3. Marchela Borislavova Milchova
4. Kristiyan Raev Gotsov
5. Svetla Arsenova Naydenova
6. Andrea Svetlova Slavcheva
7. Emilian Emilov Kamenov
8. Kameliya Vasileva Ilinkova
9. Aneliya Velkova Spasova
10. Mirianna Evtimova Miladinova
11. Nadya Elenkova Dimitrova
12. Velislava Tsvetanova Rangelova
13. Iliyana Plamenova Krumova
14. Daniel Danielov Naydenov
15. Dimitar Kirilov Stanev
16. Denis Lyubomirov Dimitrov
17. Gracia Borisov
18. Adelina Mihailova Rusenova

ROMANIA



The first few meetings with the locals from Valchid were meant to promote our project to a larger group of potential beneficiaries, including schoolteachers and public authorities. The aim was to attract a wider audience to easily identify participants to the core group that we managed to establish later in December 2023.

APEL street educations SCHEDULE

MONTH	April 2023	May 2023	SEPTEMBER 2023	OCTOBER 2023	OCTOBER 2023	NOVEMBER	NOVEMBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	DECEMBER
DAY	04.04.2023	03.05.2023	27.09.2023	10.18.2023	10.25.2023	11.16.2023	11.21.2023	11.29.2023	12.05.2023	12.09.2023
PLACE	Valchid school	Valchid school	Valchid church	Valchid	Valchid school	Valchid	Valchid	Valchid	Valchid	Valchid
ACTIVITY	Interactive theatre	Glass painting craft	Live concert and music workshop	Meet-and-greet	Magic workshop	Responsible social media behaviour	Gender equality workshop - improv class I	Gender equality workshop - improv class II	Game night	Gender equality workshop - improv class III
Participants	31	20	21	9	26	10	10	10	10	12
TRAINER	Stefan Abrudan,	Teli Iasca	Oliviu Marian	Grancea Ligia	Pintea Ionel	Grancea Ligia	Grancea Ligia	Grancea Ligia	Grancea Ligia	Grancea Ligia
COORDINATOR	Florin Stoica	Florin Stoica	Oliviu Marian	Oliviu Marian	Oliviu Marian	Oliviu Marian	Oliviu Marian	Oliviu Marian	Oliviu Marian	Oliviu Marian

DATE 04.04.2023, from 12:00 to 14:00, VALCHID School, Hoghilag Sibiu, Participants: 31 children from V to VII grade

The first part of the workshop, the interactive play The Raven And The Fox – Jean De La Fontaine was held by actors from TACT Theatre for 45-50 minutes. The purpose of the first part of the workshop was to discover the active participants from the audience in order to involve them in the following workshops within the project and also in the long term for the creation of the web-radio, WP4.

The second part of the workshop, about 1,5 hours was an open forum held by the same actors, local social educator Florin Stoica and another 2 teachers from Valchid school. In the second part of the workshop, there was a free discussion about theatre, about the work behind a play, from costumes to lights to the final performance. Also, there were open discussions moderated by the local teachers, including our social educator Florin Stoica about the general topic of our project, equality between gender, stereotypes, discrimination, public speaking fears/concerns and anxiety; both boys and girls in the group got involved in the free discussions, even if at first, they were more reluctant. The general feedback was positive, children were happy about the new activities we will develop during the project, and they are eager about the next ones scheduled for May and June 2023.



VALCHID, 03.05.2023, PAINTING WORKSHOP, DATE 03.05.2023, 12:00- 14:00,
VALCHID School, Hoghilag Sibiu Participants: 18 children from VI to VII grade

The painting workshop was held by a local artist Teli Iacsa <https://www.saatchiart.com/Teli>. She usually paints on glass but has a unique way of using recovered and recycled materials like and give them a new purpose and this is what we tried to do in Valchid. This first painting workshop was meant to determine the skill level of the participants to develop a second workshop for a mural in a public place accessible to locals and visitors. The second workshop should take place in the first week of June. First phase: a piece of thin and transparent PVC foil is cut out, after which an outline is drawn on its back. After this stage, at least two acrylic colors are applied. Later, the other colors are applied at the artist's choice. At the end, after all the layers of paint have dried, the painted object is cut out, which can be used as a gift to a loved one or as a simple decorative object. Children from both 6th and 7th grade were very excited about this new activity and are showed real interest and demonstrated to be quite skilful and enthusiast. As a rule, to be more affective workshop should be calibrated, max 20 participant/session and at least one trainer and social educator to be present all the time. Our social educator is a math teacher in Valchid school so it's much easier to make sure that everyone is safe and happy within school property.



VALCHID, 27.09.2023, MUSIC WORKSHOP, DATE 27.09.2023 from 18:00 to 20:00, VALCHID Fortified Church, Hoghilag Sibiu, Participants: 18 children from VI to VII grade

Using simple exercises, vocal warmups and vocal strengthening techniques, in order to extend the range, the voice without microphone or speakers we involved the participants into a group exercise, to make them feel more confident about their own voice using the acoustic of Valchid Church once the concert held by cello player Makcim Fernandez from Sibiu Filarmonica was over. The workshop's main goal was to identify suitable participants for our web radio project, to develop their vocal qualities, rhythm, musical hearing, and memory, encourage expression through music. This was not an easy task because most of the participants were shy in the beginning but once they had some leads from the musician, they picked up their own rhythm in no time. This improv exercise was quite similar to the music lesson they take in school but with a different setup, the fortified church provides a generous space with a great acoustic.



VALCHID, 18.10.2023, MEET AND GREET, DATE: 18.10.2023, from 15:00 to 17:00, The former city hall building from Valchid, Hoghilag Sibiu. Participants: 9 young students age between 15 and 18 years old.

We set up an informal meeting with young people from Valchid, most of whom are attending Dumbraveni High School and we think this kind of meeting can attract more young people who might play a crucial role in the creation of the newsroom and further be part of the ongoing Apel projects in Valchid and Hoghilag. We've talked about the GEAR project, the activities, and the expected results. One of the key elements of this informal meeting was the direct involvement of two young ladies from the community Ligia and Densia, they are both locals and have already been active since several years ago in different activities with the Valchid School and another NGO; we believe it is crucial to work with people from the community and not to outsource expertise.

To identify members of the group we asked them about their hobbies, their expectations about their future, and how they see the community development for the years to come. Although most of the comments were a bit scarce and negative at the beginning we believe there is still hope. Valchid is a closed and remote community, everybody knows everybody and maybe this is one of the reasons it might be easier to develop new projects in this community.



VALCHID, 25.10.2023, MAGIC SHOW WORKSHOP, DATE 25.10.2023 from 10:00 to 12:00
VALCHID School, Participants: 26 children from V to VI grade

The interactive magic show was held by the local magician and mentalist Pinte Adrian, <https://www.facebook.com/adrianpinteamagicianul/>

In the first part of the workshop, he told the audience a few things about himself, his day job, hobbies, and aspirations; and how a passion could become a great way to express yourself and gain respect all around you. Magic is gender neutral and his passion became a great tool for him in direct relation with his friends and family, teachers from school, boys and girls.

In the second part of the workshop the magician actually reveals a few tricks and how they can be made using a few techniques, some of them simple and some of them took years of practice.

Children were very excited about the show and they even learned a few easy tricks using coins, strings, cards, and other props. They were amazed about how easy magic can be if you understand the “magic” behind it. This activity also helped our core group of teens who will lead the web radio from Valchid to work better together as a team.



VALCHID, 16.11.2023, RESPONSABLE SOCIAL MEDIA BEHAVIOUR WORKSHOP, DATE 16.11.2023 from 15:30 to 17:30, The former city hall building from Valchid, Hoghilag Sibiu, Participants: 10 young students age between 13 and 18.

Thanks to our local partner Hoghilag City Hall we have now a designated space we can use for our project meetings. The room we are going to use is part of the official building that works as a local health clinic and as a kindergarten. The space we can use should host our official office for the web radio editorial team and a common space where we can meet regularly.

From the very beginning, we noticed that the vast majority of the young from our group are active on social media and know the basics about how their behaviour may affect others, their colleagues, and family. We tried to highlight the importance of being responsible online, to avoid any involvement in aggressive discussions and content about sensitive matters such as gender, politics, religion, etc; to make them understand that their personal interaction on social platforms may affect others in a negative way and the traces of this kind of behaviour remain online for the years to come,

Be bottom line conclusion was that social media, although fun to use, can be harmful because it encourages constant comparison and limits in-person communication. This kind of approach

can often lead to increased feelings of depression, anxiety, poor body image, and so on. On the bright side, it's easier for young people to communicate between them using social platforms. These channels are somehow impersonal for them and create some sort of protective barrier between them and the world. The most common channels they use on a regular basis are TikTok and YouTube and they do not use so much the comment sections.

In the second part of our session, we talked about local challenges in Valchid, and what can we do to make it better. There is no proper park or a public space for young's in Valchid to meet and this is one of the issues that part of the group is going to highlight during their meeting with the local authorities. Also, there is no proper bus station in the village, and this can be challenging, especially in bad weather; there is a real need for a social club in the village, there could be a library/bookstore with internet connections and a small coffee shop, a fitness center, or a sporting arena and maybe a public swimming pool. These are just some of the ideas we collected during our last meeting and some of them are already part of a different lobby initiative.

For support, we used content from the module *"activating an inclusive and gender-equality-oriented multimedia editorial team from the online Training session - September 2023"* part of training from Task 4.2 held by Digivis



VALCHID, 21.11.2023, IMPROV CLASS – first part WORKSHOP, DATE 21.11.2023 from 16:00 to 18:00, The former city hall building from Valchid, Hoghilag Sibiu. Participants: 10 students age between 15 and 18.

For our theatre workshop, we had the chance to meet again with one of the actors featuring early meetings on WP2. Stefan is a professional actor, director, and coordinator of one of the few independent theatre companies from our area. His expertise in this field has been for the last 25 years mainly working with teens and children all over Transylvania. In the first part of the workshop in Valchid, we started with some basic exercises to improve focus and coordination, and also to improve the bonds between the members of the web radio team; at this point, we

have pretty much selected the 10 teens we are going to work in the future and we plan to meet at least once a week until the end of the year.

The second part of the workshop was a bit more dynamic; we cleared the floor, had no more chairs and tables, and tried a few group exercises using the techniques described in the first part of the workshop. The second part of this workshop, the follow up, will take place in about a week with the same group of teens.



VALCHID, 29.11.2023, IMPROV CLASS – part two, WORKSHOP, DATE 29.11.2023 from 16:00 to 18:00, The former city hall building from Valchid, Hoghilag Sibiu., Participants: 10 students age between 13 and 16. Trainer: Stefan Abrudan

For the second part of our theatre workshop, we had the chance to meet again with one of the actors featuring early meetings on WP2, Stefan Abrudan. In the beginning, we watched several sequences from Act Like School play, then paused the movie and engaged participants in free discussion after observing the featured actors and their monologues. Although it was not so easy in the beginning the participants got more and more involved in the discussion and different points of view were made, some of them quite pertinent and mature. Tudor, one of the volunteers in our activity was part of the cast, his character was a young student boy complaining a lot about the educational system about the number of projects he needed to deliver in class and spending this whole time playing games on his phone instead of doing his homework. This was one of the characters we tried to analyse, the second one was a young female student very eager to spend a whole night in a club rather than study for a major text the next day, and there were several more characters on the line, some parent, a teacher and so on.

The original play was written based on the answers given by high school students from eastern Romania to questions related to civic involvement. Theatre students did a lot of fieldwork to gather the info from face-to-face questionnaires, and the screenplay was born and presented in various major cities in Romania. The characters in this show want to act, they want to produce the necessary change in Romanian society, but they remain stuck in a vicious circle in which they do not feel unity or common interests and goals. The participants were challenged to identify the flaws and maybe to find alternative solutions for their passive-aggressive attitude toward different characters.



VALCHID, 05.12.2023, GAME NIGHT, DATE 05.12.2023 from 16:00 to 18:00

The former city hall building from Valchid, Hoghilag Sibiu. Participants: 10 young students age between 15 and 18.

December 5th was a game night for the young group in Valchid, we met as usual around 16:00, after most of the young were returning home from school. The group starts to act like a team, they already know each other about their passions and skills, and upon their request, we decided to set a game night to spice things up. Mafia (party game) also known as Werewolf, is a Russian-inspired social deduction game created by Dimitry Davidoff in 1986. The game sums up a conflict between two groups: an informed minority (the mafiosi or the werewolves, in our case, the policeman, the killer, the doctor, and a judge) and an uninformed majority (the villagers). At the start of the game, each player is secretly assigned a role affiliated with one of these teams. The game has two alternating phases: first, a night phase, during which those with night-killing powers (this is just one person) may covertly kill other players, and second, a day phase, in which all surviving players debate and vote to eliminate a suspect.

The game continues until a faction achieves its win condition; for the village, this usually means eliminating the evil minority, while for the minority, this usually means reaching numerical parity with the village and eliminating any rival evil groups. The original game was designed for children from age 10 and the Romanian version keeps somehow the original feature, you need at least 6 players for the game, and 10 for the classic version. One of the key elements of the game is the part that the narrator plays which can be misleading for some to conceal the real identity of the killer and build the element of surprise. On a side note, we've seen commitment during the game, and this kind of initiative could help strengthen the bonds between team members.



VALCHID, 09.12.2023, IMPROV CLASS – part III, WORKSHOP, DATE 09.12.2023 from 16:00 to 18:00. The former city hall building from Valchid, Hoghilag Sibiu. Participants: 12 students age between 14 and 18. Trainer: Gianina Abrudan and Stefan Abrudan

For the third part of our theatre workshop/improv class, we had the chance to meet again with the actors featuring early meetings on WP2, Gianina and Stefan Abrudan. Our purpose was to strengthen the group core and to better prepare them for WP4 gender equality training from December and January 2024.

Last week each member of the group was assigned a few lines from a poem of their choice to learn by heart and later to stand up and do their part, in public, with an audience. We believe this kind of exercise may improve the quality of the material for the web radio editorial office. To build confidence within individuals and group but also to discover a few practical tricks to fight stage fright. In the second part of the workshop, each member of the group had to use the lines from the poetry but to present them in a different tone, happy, sad, anxious. Also, part of this group exercise was to read out loud a few lines from another poetry book empathizing with the tone and language to avoid certain public mistakes that may occur, like using words with a local accent instead of the official grammatical and the correct way.

This approach is quite common as a learning technique in public schools but due to the large number of youths in the class sometimes the information although basic does reach them in a proper way.



During our meetings on this segment of the project **159** students aged between 10 to 18 years old attended the various activities from STREET EDUCATION carried out by Stefan and Gianina Abrudan, Teli Iacsa, Florin Stoica, Mirona Oreaian, Nicu Danesan, Grancea Ligia and Adrian Pinteau, also we had the pleasure to work with our volunteers Cercea Denisa and Tudor Tipser. The group of youth are already involved in activities from WP4 we still meet up almost every week, usually in the afternoon.

The first activities within the project had the main purpose of presenting our project to the community of Valchid and creating a link between us as an organization, the local primary school, and our target group. The first meetings were organized with a larger audience to select, together with the teachers and project staff, candidates who could be part of a group that could later independently manage the local web radio editorial office. As the project evolved, the meetings took place in a different setting, in another location designed by our local partner Hoghild City Hall, with the young people who showed attention and interest in the first public meetings that we organized at the village school. They were selected by the activity coordinators and trainers according to the level of involvement of each one and based on the recommendations from their teachers at the village school. Our group members were selected among the students from the primary school in Valchid but also from the high school in Dumbraveni where most of the locals attend the courses after finishing the 8th grade.