



# CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS for International Conference "ROMA GENOCIDE - PART OF EUROPEAN HISTORY"

Date: 07<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015 Venue: Skopje, Macedonia



# Short description of the project:

# "Roma Genocide-Part of European History"

In many totalitarian countries minorities were not considered of the perfect race, or did not fit into the ideology of the totalitarian societies. The Roma were seen by the Nazis as being inferior, they were not as good a human being as the superior race and in October 1939 all Roma were ordered to be sent to concentration camps. A number of the deported Sinti, Roma also had to perform slave labour for the German arms industry. The people were ruthlessly exploited as workers before they were ultimately murdered. Forced labour up to twelve hours a day and more, hunger and terror. During this period, Roma were subjected to genocide and totally denied of their civil rights. An estimated 500,000 European Roma and Sinti were murdered during the Holocaust

The project Roma Genocide – Part of the European History is coordinated by Roma Youth Centre, in partnership with 6 other civil society organisations and supported by Europe for citizens. The project has been started to be implemented since September 2014 and it lasts till December 2015.

The aim of the project is to raise awareness about the Roma genocide and the annihilation through forced work stimulating the critical thinking and debate of young Roma and Non Roma people, their reflection and understanding of history and antigipsysm.

The project uses innovative methods such as live library, theatre, music, art, social media, exhibitions, etc. that can gather lot of people and attract public interest. It is consisted by international and local activities in 7 countries (Macedonia, Romania, Portugal, France, Hungary, Germany and Slovenia).

# About the conference

The conference is designed as a mutual learning opportunity, where participants can share, compare and learn from each other's experiences. The experiences and realities of participants, as researchers, youth workers, historians, governmental representatives, will therefore be the starting point of the programme and the core of the learning process. Inputs from experts will provide a theoretical framework for the main topics of the seminar, which will be at the core of working groups' discussions.

Moreover, in the conference will take place 30 representatives of partner organizations, educational multipliers and youth activists in order to share experiences and broaden the knowledge for different aspects of the Roma Genocide issue.

Following by the input from the project partners about the local raising campaign they are doing, a session to explore the forced labour topic in a sense: how was the forced labour implemented? What were the working conditions? and a session where participants can meet the survivors, the overall conference will look for a model how to encourage younger Roma and Non Roma generation that they are part of European culture and that they can create future society based on democracy.

# Aim and Objectives of the conference:

- Engaging Roma and non-Roma youth organizations from all over Europe in raising awareness about the "Forgotten Roma Genocide "and the concept of forced labour;
- Present set of various creative education methods that youth workers and multiplayer can use them while implementing educational activities in the field of Roma genocide and forced labour as part of it
- Exchange practices, strategies and educational methods and tools of Holocaust and remembrance education regarding the Roma genocide
- Involving institutions and organizations in raising awareness for remembrance of the Roma Genocide on local, national and European level;

# Who can apply???

All interested managers/representatives from organizations, as well youth workers, youth leaders, youth educators, historians, journalists from all over the Europe and Balkan.

# **Background of participants**

#### All the participants must:

- be able and committed to act as multipliers in youth work on the themes of remembrance and forced labour of the Roma genocide, anti-

- discrimination and promotion of human rights with Roma and Non Roma young people, for the benefit of Roma communities and Roma youth
- be motivated to develop their competences in Holocaust education,
   Forced labour, human rights education and youth work and to share their experiences with other participants
- be aged 18 +
- be committed to attend for the full duration of the conference
- be able to work in English
- be resident in one of the partner countries (mainly EU member states, Western Balkans)

## **Application procedure**

All interested applicants must to fill out the online <u>Application form</u>, **the latest 20**<sup>th</sup> **November 2015.** 

# Selection process

All the applicants will be informed for the selection results by 25<sup>th</sup> November 2015 by e-mail.

#### **Costs and Accommodation**

The hosting organization will cover full board and lodging costs, and travel costs, after providing original invoices, tickets, boarding passes. The reimbursement will be done accordingly to EU distance calculator.

http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/tools/distance\_en.htm

- Between 500 and 1999 KM: 275 EUR per participant

- Between 2000 and 2999 KM: 360 EUR per participant

Accommodation: Skopje, Macedonia

If you have question related to the conference please feel free to contact us on: ryc\_romagenocide@yahoo.com

Good Luck @

# **Activity Program**

# International Conference "Roma Genocide - Part of European" 07-10 December 2015

Venue: Skopje, Macedonia

### 07/12/2015

Arrival day

# 08/12/2015

09:30 Official opening of the Conference

- presentation of the project
- presentation of the participants

10:30 The forgotten Roma Genocide

input by expert

11:30 Roma Holocaust Education: Chances and Challenges today

input by expert

#### 13:00 - 15:00 Lunch

15:00 The concept of forced labour

input by expert

17:00 Debate and conclusions

#### 09/12/2015

09:30 Meet the survivors

• Testimonies and eye witnesses

#### 13:00 - 15:00 Lunch

15:00 Presentation by the project partners

• Implemented local raising awareness campaign in 7 countries

17:30 Visit the Museum of Jewish Holocaust

# 10/12/2015

Departure day