Dear partners and friends,

The partnership-building activity (PBA): **"Youth sport work increases inclusion and acceptance of diversity in Europe"** will be held in Novi Sad, Serbia in April 2017. We hereby kindly ask you to recruit participants from your organizations that will be able to participate at the PBA and contribute to the activity and in projects as follow-up of the PBA.

The PBA will take place in **Serbia** (Novi Sad) from **4th April** (arrival in the afternoon)to **12th April** (departure in the morning after the breakfast) **2017**.

# *About the acivity*

In Europe there are serious issues with intercultural dialogue and acceptance of diversity due to wars’ and economic migrations towards the EU. In our work for intercultural acceptance we’ve noticed how quite some values disappear from the mind-set of our beneficiaries when there is “important” sport competition event and when they take sides in opposite fan groups that show strong animosity towards each other. Then we can see certain negative behaviour shown by the same beneficiaries that are usually positive and accepting different individuals around them in regular youth work activities. Until youth work is separated from sport, we will not be able to reach as good results as possible for intercultural acceptance in our communities. We need to practice more the healthy competition and teamwork in sports among our beneficiaries. This project responds to those needs and aims to encourage our youth workers to develop more youth sport work projects that will explore and extract all the possible positive aspects of sports for developing consistent positive intercultural acceptance among our beneficiaries.

The core activity of the project is – 8 days long partnership-building activity (PBA). It will be organised in the youth hostel in Novi Sad, Serbia from 4th till 12th April 2017. Project will gather 26 participants from 19 organisations and 15 countries (Serbia, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Kosovo, Cyprus, Spain, Greece, Croatia, Italy, FYR Macedonia, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Turkey).

The goals of this PBA are to develop capacity of youth workers and partners in Erasmus+ KA2 Western Balkans Youth Window and Sport strands and to establish partnerships for youth sport work projects tackling current issues of discrimination, marginalization and exclusion in Europe and diversity in general.

Specific objectives of the partnership-building activity:

* Exploring quality teamwork and partnership on European level projects
* Sharing realities related youth work programmes existing in our organisations/communities about discrimination, exclusion, marginalisation of different groups in our communities
* Understanding basic concepts, approaches and needs analysis of Intercultural acceptance of diversity and Fundamental / Human Rights in Europe
* Understanding and sharing the situations and challenges to face when organising youth sport work projects about diversity and youth in Europe
* Introducing in details Erasmus+ (KA2 WBYW and Sport) programme - Mobility and Capacity building projects for young people and youthworkers and Collaborative partnerships in sport field
* Visiting local youth organisation dealing with the topics of the PBA
* Introducing in details the procedures and respective application forms of the Erasmus+
* Initiating and developing at least 6 Erasmus+ projects using youth sport work for promoting intercultural acceptance of diversity in our local communities and on European level

We expect from participants to be able to represent their sending organisations and enter into new partnerships and new project proposals during this PBA.

The language of the activity will be **English.**

***Requirements for participants at the PBA are:***

* Youth workers, project coordinators or volunteers that have a mandate of their sending organisation to enter into a partnership with other organisations/groups coming from Programme countries and Western Balkans
* Willing to develop and implement Erasmus+ (KA2 WBYW and Sport) projects tackling issues of promotion of sport and physical activity of youngsters for better inclusion and acceptance of diversity in Europe
* Able to attend and be active during the entire duration of the PBA; Able to communicate and work in English

***Travel and visa costs reimbursement***

Travel costs will be reimbursed only for the cheapest way of transport and preferably for the return tickets. Travel expenses are covered by the organizers 100% up to the maximum of unit cost per distance calculator and means of travel, including bank transfer and other appropriate fees (for all the original tickets and ways of travel that are plane, bus, train or ferry, NOT taxi and NOT car). For distances less than 500 km one way, the preferable means of transport are land transportations, such as train and/or bus. If other mean of transport is selected for such travels, e.g. airplane, those will be reimbursed 60% of airfare, in accordance with the principle of environmental awareness and protection.

Participants must keep all travel documents (tickets, travel agency invoices and boarding passes) as organizers are able to make any reimbursement only on the bases of presented documents!

The travel reimbursement will be done by bank transfers **after** you return home and send us the **ORIGINAL** boarding passes and tickets (and after you submit/send us the filled in evaluation forms of the training course). When you are buying a ticket, ask for additional bill as well, if possible!

Please don’t buy your tickets before we approve them! When you will plan your trip and **BEFORE** buying your tickets, especially if your planned travel itineraries are different than **4th – 12th April 2017**, please inform us in advance, so we can approve your tickets and travel costs. Also, if you travel from elsewhere than the town and country of the sending organisation partner in this project, please, inform us, as we need to approve it as well. Thanks a lot in advance!

When planning your trip have in mind that there are some cheap flights to Belgrade airport, but you can also travel to Budapest airport as well, and from there take a minibus or train to Novi Sad.

We expect participants to arrive to the hostel in Novi Sad no later than 19:30 hrs on 4th April 2017, so please do plan your flights accordingly.

For additional information, please be free to contact organizers. Like that we will avoid some uncomfortable situations in advance.

***Participation fee:*  NONE!** All accommodation and food costs in the hostel are covered by the organisers.

# *Applications*

**To apply, please fill in the application form on following link:** <https://goo.gl/forms/chmbxF4v3kQNctJs1>

**Please note that the deadline for applications is 15th March 2017.**

Selected participants will receive the detailed infosheet till 16th March 2017.

*In case you fill in the application/registration form* ***earlier than 15th March****, we will send you* ***immediately*** *the information sheet and help you start organising your travel with you (in order to get the travel tickets as cheap as possible).*

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