

INTERNATIONAL TRAINING "ONCE UPON TODAY... IN EUROPE"

An international training on how to work with historical narratives in non-formal youth education...

25.09.2017 – 02.10.2017 | Krzyżowa, Poland

SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

What if it was all just a very good story? Half true, half made up, partly touching on our personal memories and experiences, and partly reflecting the history of our communities and societies. With the project "Once upon today..." we are inviting participants to think about history, memory, and identity in this imaginative way. Not as something given, but as crafted stories.... gripping stories. "Once upon today... in Europe" focuses on issues of belonging and identity in Europe: What narratives about Europe are prevalent in different local, national or other commemorative cultures? How do they end up being what they are? Which aspects are suppressed and which ones highlighted? And how can institutions for history education and active citizenship deal with these questions in a way that brings people together?

The project has 3 stages:

- **International Training** – 25.09.-02.10.2017 in Krzyżowa
- The development of **micro-projects** by the participants in their communities – October 2017 till March 2018
- **International Youth Meeting** (including presentation of micro-projects) – 12.03.-17.03.2018. in Krzyżowa

During the training in September/October 2017, **30 participants from Estonia, Germany, Moldova, Poland, Romania and Ukraine** will intensively deal with historical narratives that exist in different local, national or other commemorative cultures. Learning and reflecting on methods within the non-formal educational sector plays an important role during the training. Participants will have the chance to learn methods that consider an approach to discover history from multiple perspectives. They discuss these issues, exchange their experience and methods and develop new approaches.

After the training, participants will use this expertise to carry out small projects with young people to discover hidden and interesting stories in their home towns. Up to eight young people from each country and one trainer from each country (hence a former participant of the international training) will have the possibility to take part in an international youth meeting in Krzyżowa the following spring (12.03.-17.03.2018).

WHO CAN APPLY?

Multipliers of youth work (18 years upwards) living in Estonia, Germany, Moldova, Poland, Romania or Ukraine who are interested in the topic of historical narratives. Participants should be committed to international cooperation or be active in youth meetings, citizenship education or related fields of work with young people.



The training is part of a three-step project. Participants of the training are invited to carry out small projects on history with young people in their home cities over the winter. One participant from each country will have the chance to return to Krzyżowa with up to eight young people for the international youth meeting taking place from 12.03.-17.03.2018. It is not obligatory to take part in the international youth meeting, but applicants with tangible ideas for carrying out projects will be given special consideration.

Since the training is going to be held in English, a high level of English is required.

Please apply individually by July 23rd 2017 (please see application information below).

CONTENT & PROGRAMME

“Once upon a time...” – this is how fairy tales start. These words sound as familiar to most people as fairy tales have been passed on from generation to generation, told and retold. When people talk about history, memory and identity, something very similar happens. They constantly tell a story about themselves, the communities and states they live in. These so called narratives help people make sense of reality and they are made up of diverse facts, myths, official commemoration and personal memories. Like any other story, they are constantly shaped and reshaped through communication and reflect the values, interpretations and political objectives of the communities and people who share it. Thus, any narrative could start like a tale in present: “Once upon today... in Europe.”

During the meeting youth workers will work on the linking points between their own biographies and the history of the countries they live in. The project encourages participants to reflect about different narratives considering the background of their individual identities, biographies, experiences and memories. It is the project’s goal to initiate a transnational dialogue and allow for a deeper understanding of perceptions and interpretations of past and future in different countries. Additionally the exchange encourages to become clearer about questions of belonging in European societies that are shaped by diversity as well as to develop understanding and tolerance among people with different national, ethnical and religious backgrounds. Therefore, it will also be important to address so called blank spaces in the collective memory, e.g. stories that are not told or not heard.

As participants come from different communities, countries and professional backgrounds, they will exchange their experiences in the field, try new methods and develop new approaches for their educational work with young people. Those methods and selected results of the workshops will be shared on an internet blog and regularly be renewed.

ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Find a preliminary agenda attached.

For more information visit: www.once-upon-today.org

PROJECT VENUE

The international training is going to take place in the International Youth Meeting Center Krzyżowa in Poland. Krzyżowa/Kreisau is a historical site. During World War II it was the meeting place of the Kreisau Circle, an important resistance group against the Nazi regime. Nowadays, the aim of Krzyżowa is supporting peaceful and tolerant



existence of nations, social groups and individuals in Europe. The educational work in Krzyżowa builds bridges between the past and the present, between Western and Eastern Europe, and promotes dialogue between generations.

ORGANIZER

Kreisau Initiative e.V. (Berlin, Germany)

CO-ORGANIZERS

Protestant Academies in Germany (Germany), Unitas (Estonia), Institute of History / Tallinn University (Estonia), The National Association of Young Historians of Moldova (Moldova), Krzyżowa Foundation (Poland), Asociata Burgus (Romania), Young Journalists' Association "Polis" (Poland), ChangeLog (Ukraine)

PARTICIPATION FEE

Participation fee covers accommodation, full board and all program activities.

Germany	90€
Estonia	50€
Moldova	30€
Poland	30€
Romania	30€
Ukraine	30€

TRAVEL COSTS

The travel costs will be reimbursed to each participant according the rules of our donor. Shown amounts are presenting the maximum reimbursement which each participant can receive of the economy class travel.

Germany	275€
Estonia	275€
Moldova	275€
Romania	275€
Ukraine	275€
Poland	180€

HOW TO APPLY?

Please fill out the online [application form](#)

Application deadline: July 23rd 2017

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