

INSTITUTE PERSPECTIVES FROM JANUARY 2016 TO JUNE 2018

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INTRODUCTION

In March 2012, an informal student philosophy club was formed "St. St. Cyril and Methodius" University in Veliko Turnovo, and a few months later in 2013, a law club also began to function. Their founders started organizing educational and scientific events for the students from these faculties. They began to participate in numerous national and European educational projects. On July 8th, 2015 they established the Association "Institute Perspectives" and put their motto "We do not have Dreams! We have Goals!"

In the time of rising euro scepticism and intolerance „Institute Perspectives,, stand in the position of respecting the universal values and on which the European Union is based!

We want to publish this book with the intention of proving to the society that European policies are working and they are effective! We want to show that our founders Ahmed and Nikola together with young and old people with different life experiences. For 6 years relying on European values and engaging with the tools of the European Commission, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Republic of Bulgaria, we have done great work for the European Union and our country!

Our motivation to publish this book is because we want to share our successes with you. Our successes include:

Attracting 14 young Europeans who have completed their education in Italy, France, Germany, Great Britain, Poland, Lithuania, Finland and Turkey to implement their 3-month working practices in our office in Svishtov. Located in the building of the First Commercial High School in Bulgaria, with which we jointly defended a project for Innovative School before the Ministry of Education. We have completed the only two international youth exchanges in Svishtov through which we created conditions for the development of the key competences of 89 young Europeans aged 15-29 from Romania, Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Latvia, Turkey, France, Italy, Portugal and Belgium. We also received the award for Quality Assurance Emblem for the „Erasmus +” project by the Human Resources Development Center in December 2017.

We created the first training program in Bulgaria to develop the key competencies, and because of that, informal learning methods are adapted to the formal education system. We have published ten International Journal of „Institute Perspectives“ which more than 200 young scientists from Europe, Asia and Africa have written. We have included over 300 Bulgarian young people to participate in European education projects under European Commission programs. The result was that after returning to Bulgaria they formed in their home cities informal youth clubs to our organization like those in Karlovo, Oryahovo, Polski Trambesh, Veliko Tarnovo, Vratsa and Varna. In 2016 and 2017 we defended and implemented educational projects at local, national and European levels totalling more than 115,000 lv.

Moreover, we signed formal agreements for cooperation with educational and public institutions in order to provide access to quality educational products to young people. Our partners are: Municipality of the city Oryahovo; „Dimitar Hadji Vasilev „ high school Svishtov; "D. A. Tsenov" Academy of Economics ; University of Velingrad; "St. st. Cyril and Methodius“ University of Veliko Turnovo and the University of Economics - Varna.

We did not fully apply for funding in these first 6 months of 2018 because we wanted to test the sustainability of the results of our projects. In the first half of 2018 we created three methodologies which connected to the most painful social-economic challenges in Bulgarian small towns.

We want to share with you our initiatives and projects at local, national and European levels with the clear intention to establish new partnerships in the spirit of our work.

„Institute of Perspectives“ is ready to cooperate with educational, public and civic organizations and institutions sharing the vision of a united and peaceful Europe!

„Institute Perspectives“ will continue to create conditions for the career development of young people with a qualification in the humanities, social and pedagogical sciences.

„Institute Perspectives“ is ready to support development of social entrepreneurship and youth activities through non-formal learning methods in the context of EU education policies in small towns and rural areas of Bulgaria and Europe!

We are ready to give you a hand for responsible cooperation in order to fully realize the idea of a united European Union, respect the human dignity of every citizen!

2016

Will remain in the history of Institute Perspectives, as the year in which we implemented our four long planned goals. This year we finally formed three fundamental principles (initiative, work in multicultural environment and strive to expand the youth scope) through which we have been able to develop our organization in the difficult financial and economic situations in Bulgaria and Europe in the 20th years of the XXI century.

In 2016, through various activities at a local, national and European level, Institute Perspectives contributed to implement the aims of the National Youth Strategy (2012 - 2020) and particularly to promote methods of non-formal education and expanding access to the program "Youth in Action" of young people, especially those living in small towns and rural areas.

Through our activities, we contribute to the objectives of the EU Strategy 'Youth – Investing and Empowering', by providing and supporting youth volunteering, and developing more voluntary opportunities for them. It will help those young people making it easier to volunteer by removing barriers, raising awareness of the value of volunteering, recognizing it as an important way of non-formal education.

Under the recommendation of the EU Council in 2012 for the validation of non-formal and informal learning, our activities were oriented in implementing methods of non-formal education.

Our initiatives support the objectives of the strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth - Europe 2020 - aimed at promoting the recognition of non-formal learning. It will lead to the acquisition and recognition of competences required for further education and successful realization on the labor market for young people.

Through our activities, we work to achieve the target set in the National Strategy for Lifelong Learning (2014 - 2020) to increase the share of the population aged 25-64 participating in non-formal education from 24.4% in 2011 to 38.0% by 2020.

Institute Perspectives carries out activities supporting the objectives of the Strategy for Educational Integration of Children and students from ethnic minorities (2015-2020) and in particular Strategic goals №1 'Guaranteeing the right for equal access to quality education for the children and students from ethnic minorities' and Strategic goal №3 'Creating preconditions for a successful socialization of the children and young people from ethnic minorities'.

While working directly with young people, representatives of the Institute Perspectives are always lead by the principles of equal access to participation by everyone, complying the horizontal EU policies of non-discrimination and gender equality. During all activities in 2016, our representatives clearly distinguished the political parties and they undoubtedly emphasized dedication to activities to support young people for their personal and professional growth. In 2016, our members and volunteers in all our activities were opposed to hate speech and inciting religious hatred between individuals. Last year, the leadership of the organization with the support of all the volunteers and members managed to coordinate the implementation of dozens of events at local, regional, national and European levels. In 2016 aroused the interest of hundreds of young people for their participation in peaceful initiatives favoring social development.

FOUR PROJECTS WITH STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE TO CONSOLIDATE ASSOCIATION “INSTITUTE PERSPECTIVES” AS PERSISTENT YOUTH ORGANIZATION

YOUTH EXCHANGE IN SVISHTOV IN KEY ACTION №1, SECTOR 'YOUTH' OF 'ERASMUS +' PROGRAMME ON TOPIC 'YOUNG PEOPLE FROM UNEMPLOYMENT TO EMPLOYMENT' CONTRACT № 2015-3-BG01-KA105-022627

As the coordinating organization, the Association “Institute Perspectives” in active partnership with six partner organizations implemented the project within ERASMUS+ program Youth Exchange “Young people from unemployment to employment”. The Exchange took place from 6th to 14th April 2016 in Svishtov, located in the region Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria.

The profile of respondents: seven countries joined the project (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Poland, Italy, Turkey, and Lithuania) and a total of 42 young people and 7 leaders. The respondents were young people, aged 18-29 years, with 12 of them being young people with economic difficulties and/or geographical constraints.

The main goal of the project was to ensure the development of the knowledge and skills as the main key was to ensure the youth employment and youth entrepreneurship development by applying techniques and methods of the non-formal education. They learned about the best practices, by meeting with local institutions and local leaders working on the problem, by conducting an event that was significant for the community, in the context of promoting tolerance and providing the respondents self-awareness of their European identity. For attaining the objective, the following activities were implemented: preparation, motivation, organization, implementation, evaluation and self-reflection. A distinct result of the carried-out project was the publishing of a Handbook on methodology, best practices and advices.

The main objective was awareness on the topic at local, national and international levels. The overall activities on the project: preparation, implementation and evaluation, were done by various methods and techniques of the non-formal education.

Achieved results: implementing of the project had a direct impact on youth respondents. They developed their skills and knowledge in the field of the employability, youth employment, youth entrepreneurship and there was a possibility for self-fulfillment on the labor market. The young respondents became multiplications with the mission to meet all of the members in the sixth organizations involved in the project, using the new information and knowledge.

The effect on the Association "Institute Perspectives": By implementing of the current project, the administrative capacity of the Association was improved in development cooperation at an international level. During the project, some members and volunteers of the Association took the first steps in the international activity. The organization increased its authority among the local community by the successful implementation of its first project under ERASMUS+ program in Svishtov municipality. By preparation and publishing of the Handbook, the Association defended its authority once again.

The effect on the partner organizations: by their active partnership, the six partner organizations in the project received some direct benefits as follows:

- Their administrative capacity for participation in international youth projects was increased;
- They improved their valuable experience being participants in Erasmus+ project;
- Their impact on the local community was increased;
- They built further potential partnerships under Erasmus+ program;
- They had their team multiplied, that spread their knowledge on the youth employment and entrepreneurship among their countrymen and women;
- They distributed the Handbook among volunteers and among other young people, who are interested in the topic.

The methodology: The methodology of the project was based on the techniques and methods of the non-formal education.

THE FIRST NATIONAL CONFERENCE: 'BULGARIA IN THE 20TH YEARS OF THE XXI CENTURY. ASPECTS OF STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT'

On 22nd and 23rd April 2016 in Veliko Tarnovo, in cooperation with the Youth Center - Veliko Tarnovo we held a National Conference 'Bulgaria in the 20th years of the XXI century. Aspects of strategic development' on which 16 people presented their work with a clear vision for the development of Bulgaria. The conference was attended by students and public figures from the former capital of Bulgaria, which with interest discussed each of the reports with the corresponding author.

The main reason "Institute Perspectives" decided to organize a national conference is the fact that we live in the time of many challenges. The happenings in neighboring countries and the countries close to Bulgaria that have a strong geopolitical repercussion. The reports were presented by the authors, representatives of Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" - Sofia, "D. A. Tsenov" Academy of Economics - Svishtov, South-West University "Neofit Rilski" - Blagoevgrad, "University of Economics" - Varna, "New Bulgarian

University" - Sofia, "St. Cyril and St. Methodius" University - Veliko Tarnovo and 'University of National and World Economy' - Sofia

Special guest of the conference was Deputy Governor of Veliko Tarnovo region Mr. Nikolai Petrov, he commented that the event is unique for the city because the whole conference was organized and led by young scientists, assistants, PhD students and students. For the first time, such a high scientific forum was held in Veliko Tarnovo without being connected to the Veliko Tarnovo University, "Vasil Levski" National Military University or any of the colleges in the city.

SUMMER ACADEMY 'PERSPECTIVES'

The summer academy 'Perspectives' was a project of our organization without external financing in partnership with PSHSE "Dimitar Hadjivasilev" - Svishtov. Through this project, we set the task to develop the competencies of young people in Svishtov to participate in EU projects of the organization. The project activities were realized in the period of 1st July to 30th September 2016. Our main goals were:

- to inform young people about the opportunities that the EU provides to young people until 2020;
- to develop participants' skills for future inclusion in projects and programs financed by the European Social Fund.

The methods used were based on non-formal learning. The participants developed the following competences: learning skills; communication skills; comprehension and expression of ideas, facts and feelings; rhetorical skills for public speaking; skills to work in international teams; social and civic competences for active involvement in public life. Every week we held three events with an average duration of 150 minutes. An important principle in the implementation of the academy was constant feedback from the participants about the organized activities and used methods.

Facilitators of the Summer Academy were four 'Erasmus +' interns who have adopted our organisation. The interns were:

- Tien Dat Trieu, Erasmus Mundus Master program of QEM, Pantheon-Sorbonne University, Paris, France;
- Magdalena Hrabia, Master program – Finance and Accounting of Cracow University of Economics, Cracow, Poland;
- Ali Abdullah Ali Alshami, Bachelor program – Computer Engineering - Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University, Mugla, Turkey;
- Camila Alejandra Guarín Ossa, Bachelor program – Business Administration, University of La Rioja, Logroño, Spain.

The Academy was attended by over 40 young people from Svishtov, which subsequently became volunteers in our organization. Some of them took part in our national and international projects by the end of 2016.

‘THE FUTURE IS TOLERANCE’

Together with PHSE "Dimitar Hadjivasilev" - Svishtov we won a project with the title: "The future is tolerance" funded by 33.15-2016 of Centre for Educational Integration of Children and Students from Ethnic Minorities (CEICSEM) Contact№ BC - 33.15-1-022/28.09.2016. Project will be implemented in the period 01.10.2016 – 09.30.2017.

The main goal of the project is to achieve complete socialization of students and young people from ethnic minorities in the municipality of Svishtov. The specific goals of the project that is coherent and relevant to the main goal are:

- To overcome negative stereotypes and discriminatory attitudes towards different ethnic groups;
- To achieve dialogue between minorities and the majority in the municipality of Svishtov.
- To raise awareness among young people of the minority and the majority of the essence of tolerance and intercultural dialogue.
- To acquire the competencies of students to work in a real multicultural environment.
- To inform parents of the children and students from ethnic minorities about the opportunities for social development of their children.
- To identify the challenges facing the social integration of students and young people from ethnic minorities.
- To develop the competencies of youth workers, teachers and parents to work in a multicultural environment.
- To increase the proportion of students and young people from minority groups in the municipality of Svishtov, who are active citizens.
- To minimize existing social barriers based on prejudice and discrimination that lead to poor realization within the labor market and in social realization of representatives of ethnic minorities.
- To increase the proportion of pupils from ethnic minorities of the municipality of Svishtov, who continue to study at universities.
- To establish a municipal plan - a strategy with set activities for gradual desegregation of schools and to overcome the secondary segregated ones.

The management team of the current project has developed an innovative methodology that contains elements of formal education, non-formal education and practical activities. In the methodology, each action stems from previous ones and correspond with the upcoming activities of the project.

At the beginning of the project, we started with a series of discussions and interviews with parents. Along this we carried out work in groups and formed a

volunteer corps "Activators". The final step of this activity is students to share what they have learned in a multicultural environment.

The next step is monitoring and an analysis of the results and the creation of an interim report containing recommendations on the challenges and progress of the project activities. Then, in the educational part, it aimed at developing the competence of parents, teachers, students and young people to work in a multicultural environment.

The following step is working in groups through interactive games and simulations to reinforce the civic and social skills of young people and students from ethnic minorities. The newly acquired knowledge through lectures and shared learning will be shared by youths and students to parents, thus multiply the knowledge of the participants in the previous activities. Finally, young people and minority students who are socialized will visit higher education institutions to continue their full integration into society through continuing education.

REALISED INITIATIVES AT NATIONAL LEVEL

29.01.2016

Together with Youth Center - Veliko Tarnovo we realized an Info Day "Sport and Youth policies - Perspectives.". It included the following modules: "Sport", "Youth policies and activities", "Erasmus +" as a tool for making youth policies at local level. As well as the National Youth Program 2016-2020. The event was attended by people of municipalities of Veliko Tarnovo, Lyaskovets, Pavlikeni, Svishtov and Gorna Oryahovitsa and also participants from NGOs and active youth people.

30.01.2016

In the City of Varna, we realized training on topic "Introduction to the development of European projects.". The purpose of training is to familiarize young participants with the functioning of European programs, as well as the essential link between policies - Programs - EU projects. The training helped to develop practical skills for preparation of project proposals of 15 young people aged 18-29. The training was introductory and laid the foundation for the further deepening of knowledge and skills in the development of European projects. The training was carried out through the methods of non-formal education.

09.05.2016

By an invitation of head of PHSE "Dimitar Hadjivasilev" – Svishtov Mrs. Rumyana Ivanova, the Chairman of our organisation Mr. Ahmed Kuytov delivered a public lecture to students from 8 to 11 class on topic - "Europe as an opportunity to develop youth potential."

At the beginning of his presentation Mr. Kuytov congratulated students on the occasion of the feast day. He expressed the view that today Europe is facing difficult times and only youth guarantee the positive development of any challenge to the European Union.

The second part of his lecture was devoted to the "Erasmus +" and opportunities provided to young people. During the lecture, he presented the upcoming youth exchanges in various countries of Europe led by the organization. Then he said that although the organization is headquartered in Svishtov, citizens of Svishtov rarely decide to participate in such projects, but he hopes in the foreseeable future to change this.

Finally, he announced the upcoming summer academies of Institute Perspectives in which lecturers and trainers will be youth workers from different European countries and Bulgaria. Their aim is young Europeans to pass on their experience related to non-formal education and the development of European educational projects of Svishtov's youths. The upcoming initiative of the organization will be in partnership with the Academy of Economics "D.A. Tsenov" and the schools in the region. Students and the head Mrs. Ivanova expressed a desire to participate in summer academies, through which Mr. Kuytov said that it is a clear sign of the meaningfulness of the initiative.

11.05.2016

At the Academy of Economics "D. A. Tsenov" we held a public lecture devoted to opportunities for doctoral mobility through KA1 sector "Youth" program "Erasmus +". The lecture was attended by over 40 students and professors from the university.

19-20.07.2016

In hall 30 of the Youth Center - Veliko Tarnovo we held a training - How to touch European values. Special speakers were Magdalena Hrabal, master student of the Economic University in Krakow and Dat Nguyen, master's student of the Pantheon - Sorbonne, Paris. The aim of the training was to inform young people and individuals who are interested in current opportunities for education and development within the European Union and Bulgaria. Upon successful completion of the course participants got the opportunity to be included in current international educational exchanges and other programs for professional and personal development of young European citizens. During the training, Miroslav Dimitrov and Elena Nikolova, students from the Language School "Professor Dr. Zlatarov " - Veliko Tarnovo provided their newly acquired knowledge and skills by participation in youth exchange program" Erasmus + " several weeks earlier.

Through this training, which is part of a wider initiative of the Institute Perspectives we aim to raise awareness and activity of young Bulgarians in the European integration process. Because, according to a survey of UNESCO from 2015 in our country there are 167,670 youth aged 15-24 who do nothing - do not

learn, do not work or training. Because of this, our country ranks first in the EU with the highest percentage of young people who are not in educational, social and labor system. The fact that we could not use their potential led to the loss of 1.3 billion per year for the country.

01.12.2016

We organized a special public lecture with topics: "Why to be active citizens?" by lecturer Mr. Nikolay Mihaylov /Chairman of the Union of Young Lawyers in Bulgaria/ and "Entrepreneurship in the IT sector as an opportunity for young!" By lecturer Mr. Boyan Kasarov /entrepreneur in the IT sector/.

The event was aimed primarily at young people who wish to continue their professional development in the areas of entrepreneurship, computer technology and public affairs. During the event were presented opportunities for the development of youth skills through participation in international educational projects of the Institute Perspectives.

14.12.2016

Informational meeting on topic "Youth work and the challenges of the refugee crisis in Europe" was held in Hall 1 of Svishtov Municipality as post-activity of an international Erasmus+ project with Contact № 2016-1-BGE04-KA105-001800 and topic "Migrants: A Youth Work Perspective", which took place in the City of Brussels, Belgium in the period 04.12.2016 - 10.12.2016. Five of our representatives participated in activities in Brussels during which created non-formal methods for working with migrants. They discussed the challenges associated with youth work and discussed the possible future decisions and activities.

On this information meeting the participants in the project delivered two lectures to the people of Svishtov on topics:

1. The essence of youth work, non-formal education and their interaction with formal education in Europe.
2. Practical results from the project in the Brussels, Belgium.

12-22.12.2016

We organized 15 workshops on topic "We want to ...?" in Action 1 of the project "New horizons for the youth of Svishtov" Contact№ 25-00-25 / 15.12.2016, funded by the National Youth Program 2016-2020, subprogram 2: "National youth initiatives and campaigns". In the workshops attended by 260 youth people aged 16-25, who are students in schools and university in the municipality of Svishtov, including villages. The purpose of the meetings is through methods of non-formal education to explore and identify the needs and interests of young people of Svishtov Municipality.

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS SIGNED IN 2016

Led by the desire to develop youth community, to promote European values, to promote social cooperation, to develop culture and stimulate economic growth in the Republic of Bulgaria and to consider efficient and sustainable interaction between professional schools and universities and NGOs, we signed partnership agreements with the following educational institutions in Bulgaria and Italy:

- Economic University - Varna from 01.04.2016 for a period of 3 years and is automatically extended for the same period unless cancelled.
- Academy of Economics "D.A. Tsenov" - Svishtov from 14.04.2016 for a period of 3 years and is automatically extended for the same period unless cancelled.
- PSHSE "Dimitar Hadjivasilev" - Svishtov from 09.05.2016g. for a period of 4 years.
- Ca`Foscari University of Venice from 16.06.2016g. for a period of 3 years and is automatically extended for the same period unless cancelled.

2017

Association "Perspectives Institute" continues to pursue its mission and goals in the third year of its existence. In 2017 the main areas in which we implemented initiatives were:

- Development of non-formal learning methods;
- Reinforcement of the principles of youth work;
- Promotion of social entrepreneurship;
- Activation of young people from vulnerable groups living in small settlements in Bulgaria and Europe;
- Expansion of the organization on an international level.

The activities performed by "Perspectives Institute" help to implement:

- Art. 165 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union;
- Art. 24 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union (2012 / C 326/02);
- Art. 57 and Art. 59 of the Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in the Life of Municipalities and Regions;
- Art. 2 of the Youth Act of the Republic of Bulgaria.

Through its implemented initiatives, the Association contributes to the realization of the objectives of national and European youth and education policies set out in:

- The EU Youth Strategy 2010-2018;
- The EU 2020 Strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth;
- National Youth Strategy 2012-2020;
- The National Lifelong Learning Strategy 2014-2020;
- The Strategy for Educational Integration of Children and Students from Ethnic Minorities 2015-2020.

The leaders, experts, youth workers, members and volunteers of Institute Perspectives accept responsibly the voted trust of the participants in their events and are also aware of the seriousness of their actions in relation to the public and personal development of the Bulgarian youth and will do their best to help them and to stand for them. The organization's team has always respected and upheld the universal values of our society and will continue to work in this direction by increasing the number of active citizens.

YOUTH AND EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES AT LOCAL LEVEL

REALIZED IN SVISHTOV

INNOVATIVE SCHOOL

Association "Perspectives Institute" as the main partner of the Dimitar Hadjivasilev Professional State Commercial High School from July 17, 2017 for the following period of four school years will implement a project for Innovative School. Institute Perspectives contributes to the implementation of the innovation Pedagogy of Liberation. PSCHs "Dimitar Hadjivasilev" was approved as an innovative school by Decision № 391 of July 17, 2017 of the Council of Ministers for the adoption of the List of Innovative Schools, on the grounds of Art. 38, para. 6 and Art. 39, para. 5 of the Preschool and School Education Act.

The organization's commitment is to include youth workers in all subjects of "Entrepreneurship", "History and Civilization" and "Citizenship Education", who have the competence to organize educational initiatives in line with the non-formal learning methodology.

Youth workers of the organization have received their qualifications as a result of multiple participations in international youth exchanges and training courses under the Erasmus + Youth Program, Youth Sector. Together with a regular teacher on the subject, they organize the learning process, including educational tools from non-formal learning. An innovative lesson has a duration of 90 minutes. The youth worker, together with the teacher, encourages the active participation of pupils in the educational process approved by the curriculum.

In innovative lessons, students' attention is directed to the process of reflection through which young people accept new knowledge. They realize their own feelings by performing individual and group tasks. They identify the advantages and challenges that influence the achievement of educational goals. This project demonstrates the positive effect of informal learning on young people's full development. Through the applied innovation, we reinforce the knowledge gained through the non-formal learning approach. Through the implementation of the project we make key steps towards the real integration of informal learning techniques into the Bulgarian educational system.

SUMMER ACADEMY PERSPECTIVES 2017

For a second consecutive year, interns from the Perspectives Institute - undergraduate and master degree programs students at universities in France, Germany, Latvia and Italy, and also with qualified youth workers, succeeded in organizing numerous educational initiatives between June and September 2017 on terrain involving Bulgarian youths. The main language of communication was English. The goal was to engage the leisure time of young people with limited opportunities and at risk of social exclusion. The events used the leisure time of the young people and later they gained confidence to take part in educational initiatives to develop themselves and their community. The interaction with representatives of different European countries improved the communicative and presentation skills of the young people of the town of Svishtov and they also improved their knowledge about different customs and traditions. With over 30 events in different districts of the town of Svishtov, such as "Rila", "Mladost", "Vezhen", "Lyulyak", "Dunav" and so on, more than 300 young people aged 13 to 18 years were involved.

Special initiatives from the Summer Academy were:

"*Evening in the neighborhood*", where our trainees had engaged children and young people from ethnic minorities in educational initiatives that were involved in follow-up activities with youth of the majority to develop their competencies. During the visit to the neighborhoods with a predominant minority population, our European trainees had realized the need to enhance the educational activities in these areas. The effect on the children, the young people and their parents was to increase their readiness to participate in activities that promote their full integration into society.

An "*Educational Cafe*", through which young people have been demonstrated, the ability to develop their skills and knowledge everywhere. Even by the pool and with nice music! The youth workers of "Perspectives Institute" and our international trainees have organized games of chance on the non-formal learning methodologies, which have created conditions for increasing intercultural integration and public expression of young people.

"Danube Survivor", through which we attracted the interest of the young people in the town of Svishtov to the surrounding natural resources, which are still unknown to them. Through the organization of simulating educational activities in the natural environment and in particular along the Danube and the islands near Svishtov, the incredible range of new emotional and spiritual experiences that are useful for young people have been opened. "Danube Survivor" had created conditions for the development of their key competences in a natural environment that was an alternative to the typical summer day behind the computer. The challenges stemmed from the increasingly virtual life of young people and from being again attracted to communication with their peers.

Svishtov is a town with amazing beaches and recreation areas along the Danube River, for which the young people did not even know of. This event had awakened in young people the awareness of the importance of knowing the native land and the natural richness it offers. The educational side of the initiative was also awareness of the principles of sustainable local development, tailored to the natural heritage; the strength of teamwork, in accordance with pan-European and human moral values; the principles of a shared economy; the usefulness of non-formal learning in nature.

A combination of principles of youth work with the methodology of non-formal learning was implemented in the Summer Academy. Each initiative was first discussed with volunteers of the “Perspectives Institute” and responsibilities were allocated in accordance with the principle of fully involving young people in terms of their interests and talents and in line with horizontal EU policies. The initiatives were meant to be attractive and create prerequisites for joyful moments in young people. They were also designed to meet the needs of young people. Youth workers and trainees used a holistic approach to interacting with young people and carried out their work in accordance with respect for youth rights. After each initiative, group reflection took place, through which the youngsters gained knowledge and realized the role they play with other young people. They were aware that in order to achieve sustainable solutions, it is necessary to plan ahead in which everyone is involved in the decision-making process and then take responsibility for the commitments they have made.

MATHEMATICAL SCHOOL FOR ADVANCES

In the period from 30.01. 2017 to 22.02. 2017 the “Advanced Mathematics” School took place, where more than 80 children from the first to the fourth grade were involved. The main objective of the initiative was to familiarize students with material other than what is taught at school. The types of tasks considered develop logical thinking and often found a place in the racing themes of respected mathematical tournaments. A special lecturer was Lyubomira Dimitrova, who is 8 years old and takes part in competitive mathematics.

She has participated in over 200 mathematical tournaments in a large part of which she has won prizes. Her greatest achievement was a gold medal at the Open in Asia in August 2016. When the school opened its doors, Lyubomira was IX class at the "Nikolay Katranov" University in Svishtov. The young lady created love for mathematics in children, not to perceive it as a science but also as a pleasant activity, which is not only useful but also fun. He also prepared them for various mathematical competitions. This school was one of a kind created in the municipality of Svishtov, which reaped great success and interest among parents and children. Lubomira Dimitrova herself, through the realization of this school, had acquired invaluable organizational and training

experience. As a result of the mathematical school, some of the students participated for the first time in mathematical competitions.

DEBATE SCHOOL

From March until May 2017 the initiative was realized with a main lecturer Monika Leonova, who was at that time student in the 11th grade of Sofia University "Nikolay Katranov". The school successfully completed 30 young people from Svishtov from 15 to 29 years of age. They had the opportunity to get acquainted with the beauty of the debate and at the same time to develop their rhetorical skills. Twice a week Monika Leona delivered lectures and simulated debates to create the best possible conditions for theoretical and practical preparation. At the end of the course, all participants were fascinated by the magic of the debates, and some of them continued to seek opportunities to do so. Accordingly, Monica had gained a lot of experience that she had decided to use in her further development because she was about to continue her education in Law and in the future to become a lawyer.

PUBLIC LENGTH OF THE THEME "WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO BE ACTIVE"

On March 7, 2017, President of the Institute Perspectives, Mr. Kuytov, held an open public lecture for more than 50 students from Economic Academy. "D. A. Tsenov ", town of Svishtov. In his speech he paid attention to informal learning and the problems of young people who neither study nor work. "A person is happy when he works and when he turns his ideas into real action" - was the main focus of the lecture. He had explained that the activity was in the search for and doing something, not in the final result, and stressed that young people could succeed only if they wanted to create and create. Mr. Kuytov, presented current opportunities for inclusion in projects where students can participate in different events in Bulgaria and other European countries.

"I, BULGARIA AND THE EUROPEAN UNION - 10 YEARS LATER"

On March 21, 2017, an essay contest was organized, organized by the Department of "Strategic Planning", Economic Academy. "D. A. Tsenov "together with" Institute of Perspectives ". The competition involved 37 students from 1, 2, 3 and 4 courses majoring in "Public Administration", "Strategic and Business Planning", "Marketing", "Insurance and Social Policy", "Finance", "Accounting and Auditing" "Business Informatics", "Business Administration", "Agrarian Economy" and "International Economic Relations". Participants presented their works to the jury, chaired by prof. Dr. Margarita Bogdanova - Head of Department "Strategic Planning" and members - lecturers from

"Strategic Planning" and Mr. Ahmed Kuytov - Chairman of the Board of the association "Institute Perspectives". The association had given the three winners in the competition the chance to participate in two projects for international youth exchange in 2017 - two students went in Italy and one - in Slovakia.

Special Prize of the "Institute Perspectives" Institute:

Daniel Angelov - 4 course, specialty "Finance";

Additional awards of the "Institute Perspectives" Institute:

Ivan Ivanov - 3 course, specialty "Business Administration";

Dilyana Stoyanova - 2 course, specialty "Business Administration";

Yanitsa Dimitrova - 3 course, specialty "Business Informatics".

The impressions of Mr. Kuytov on the ideas presented and those of the participants in the competition:

"After more than 3 hours of work, I honestly admit, I understood something very, very disturbing. Even after the end of the event, I felt very scared and discouraged. This is mainly due to the fact that most of the arguments put forward in the essay of young people were aimed at European integration processes. The biggest harm to my opinion is the media. Indeed, the EU at this stage is a union that has set goals and policies that are far from what is being presented in society. In addition to his recent experience as a "World and Person" teacher, Head of the "New Horizons" Project for Svishtov "Youth and the Future is Tolerance" Coordinator, I had the opportunity to interact with more different types of personalities aged 15-29, I want to address all colleagues dealing with EU integration of young people! WE HAVE A HUGE PROBLEM!!! All of us who are glad to be chairmen, coordinators and all of us who are happy to upload photos of exchanges, conferences and other events from shiny hotels across Europe can have serious problems in the near future. We need to explain why the EU has its own good sides! "

ROUND TABLE: "EDUCATION AND ITS FORMS"

On May 15, 2017, together with the Department of "Social and Legal Sciences", Economic Academy "D. A. Tsenov" and PHSE "Dimitar Hadjivasilev" held the event where university teachers, teachers and youth workers discussed issues related to the role of education in the process of forming the personality, the forms of education (formal, non-formal and informal), the methods of the implementation of non-formal learning, policies for the development of non-formal education at national and European level.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE YOUTH

"ACTIVE, TOGETHER, WITH SMILE" is the motto under which a number of events were held on 12.08. 2017 for approximately 150 young people, parents and children on the occasion of the International Youth Day. The

events were held at “Septemvri”, Svishtov. Partners in the realization of the event were the organizations: “Green Hat-Svishtov” Association and JCI Svishtov.

There were separate areas for basketball, volleyball, table tennis, drawing, kickboxing and interactive games. The event was honored by the sports club "Bolg" with representatives - coach Martin Minkov and assistant coach Ivan Angelov. Participation was also taken by the sport club "Svilosa" with representative Miroslava Koleva. Both clubs gave lessons to all who wanted - both young and old. The guest of the event was the fitness instructor - Denis Ivanov.

International Youth Day ended with zumba and hip-hop dances. The zumba was led by Alexandra Angelova and the hip-hop dances were performed by "Beat the beat", headed by Kibar Mustafafova.

Exclusive responsiveness to the event was Vladislav Nikolaev, who provided refreshing fruit for all participants and attending the event.

"THE FUTURE IS TOLERANCE"

On 28.09.2017. a project was completed, which we implemented in partnership with the PHSE “Dimitar Hadjivasilev” Svishtov. Funded by the CESR under the 33.15-2016 Contest Procedure - BG-33.15-1-022 / 28.09 2016. The project was directly funded by 480 parents who raised their awareness of the benefits of education. A further 150 young people participated in activities to overcome negative stereotypes and discriminatory attitudes. 40 young people were volunteered to work with children at risk of dropping out or dropping out of school.

The implementation of the project helped to minimize the effect of a number of challenges and helped to overcome them. Through the project an environment for dialogue between minorities and the majority of the territory of Svishtov Municipality was created. Raising awareness among young people, both minority and majority, on the nature of tolerance and intercultural dialogue. Increased awareness of parents about the opportunities for social realization of their children. The competences of teachers and youth workers to work with representatives of ethnic minorities have increased. The share of minority students and youths who are civilian active and responsible increased. The negative impact of the many social barriers based on prejudice and discrimination, leading to poor realization both in the labor market and in the social realization of the representatives of the ethnic minorities, has diminished. The percentage of ethnic minority students who continue to be taught in higher education institutions has increased.

YOUTH SPACE PROSPECTS

From September to December 2017, the space was designed to create an alternative environment in which the young people of the town of Svishtov develop fully in accordance with the common European values. The main need for such space was in the autumn and winter season, when the weather did not allow young people to gather in public spaces. Small towns like Svishtov lacked public infrastructure to be an alternative to traditional coffee and nightclubs. The space provided an environment in which young people would gather and spend their free time in the time interval from 16:00 until 22:00. during the week and from 10:00 to 22:00. on weekends. The space was designed for young people in vulnerable situations and at risk of social exclusion. It aimed young people to be actively involved, giving them real responsibilities - to improve their understanding of European values and to increase their personal responsibility towards society, to realize that every action or inaction of theirs reflects on the life of the whole community.

For the implementation of the initiative, only funds collected from membership fees from the "Institute Perspectives" were spent. The room was provided free of charge by local business representatives. More than 50 young people aged 15-29 participated in the activity of the youth space. Space management was provided to young people who independently decided what its structure and what activities to do on its territory. Three types of management were changed. The role of youth workers from the "Perspectives Institute" was a voluntary and gratuitous facilitation of the discussions among young people. Regularly organized simulation games on topics such as "Human Rights and Responsibilities", "Active Citizenship" and "Youth Self-Government".

The positive results are:

- To provide quality educational services for young people in risk groups.
- The creation of an environment for full development through educational activities to engage in leisure time.
- Improving communication between youth workers and young people.
- Increased qualification of youth workers towards the organization of free time for young people in vulnerable situations.

Identify and explore youth interpersonal relationships from youth workers and also identify attitudes towards family, school, work, social and personal life.

Challenges:

- In the absence of youth workers in space, young people have undertaken the implementation of negative activities leading to an unhealthy lifestyle such as smoking, drinking alcoholic beverages, playing gambling such as poker.

- In the absence of youth workers, young people have damaged doors in the room, broken glass and damaged furniture and technical equipment.
- In the absence of youth workers, interpersonal conflicts have arisen leading to the exclusion of young people from the activities of space.
- Exclusion of other young people from different "youth groups" in the life of space.

Conclusions:

A positive and educational effect on young people is achieved through constant organization and conduct of activities and initiatives led by experienced youth workers. Allowed to self-rule, young people manifest behavior contrary to generally accepted European and universal values. In the youth field, it is necessary to engage youth workers who consistently help to build full-fledged individuals in the absence of a family and a poor economic environment in the small town. For sustainable effect, youth workers need to be peers of young people in vulnerable groups. For the effectiveness of the space, it is necessary to have a real and profound partnership with other public institutions and enterprises to improve the economic and social level.

THE ROLE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE SOCIETY

From 16. 11. 2017 to 23.11. 2017, a series of discussions and simulation games were initiated with over 40 young people from Svishtov aged 18-29 joining , with the main goal of identifying the situation of young people and the responsibilities they have towards the development of society. The starting points of the joint meetings were the following:

- Challenges for young people and their subsequent development in Bulgaria?
- Specific suggestions for improving the quality of life in our society?
- Mechanisms and tools for development at national and European levels that support young people?

The conclusions of the discussions have clearly demonstrated that the participants are aware of the challenges ahead. They are aware of the responsibility they have as people to whom they are committed to address the identified challenges. The omission that has been marked is that participants need to improve their knowledge of the legal mechanisms and tools they can handle in solving these difficulties. A number of informal simulation activities were conducted during the implementation of the initiative, through which the participants realized that at the heart of things are the moral values on which norms of behavior and our traditions are built. Young people have come to the conclusion that the values of a group of people are indicative of the development

of their future. During the implementation of the activity, emphasis was placed on the psychological processes forming assessments among young people. Methods have been shared to critically eliminate stereotypes.

The funding of the initiatives was with the organization's own resources. In the course of the activities, participants were prepared evening, observing the principles of the shared economy.

STUDY ACTIVITIES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A YOUTH ADVISORY ADVISOR TO THE SVISHTOV MUNICIPALITY

In November 30, 2017, the first workshop was held in order to start the formation of a Youth Commission to carry out activities for the involvement of young people in civic, social, economic and cultural life to the Municipal Council of Svishtov. The Youth Commission would rest on the values and principles laid down in:

- The Revised European Charter for the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life.
- The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union. - The Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- The National Youth Strategy (2016-2020)
- European Youth Strategy (2010-2018)

The Commission's aim was to increase the competence of young people to deal with public mechanisms to create a meaningful involvement of young people in decision-making and decision-making processes. There were working meetings with young people who, in accordance with the European principles of collective decision-making, had developed the statutes of the Youth Commission.

REALIZED IN KARLOVO

FIRST STEPS TO EUROPEAN VALUES.

On December 9 and 10, 2017 in “Vasil Levski” High school of Karlovo, "Perspectives Institute" conducted the training for 38 young people from the town of Karlovo and the town of Sopot and the settlements. The main goals of the training were:

- To increase the competence of the participants to reflect critically;
- Raise participants' competence to identify stereotypes and prejudices;
- To demonstrate to the participants actions consistent with respect for human dignity, trust, solidarity and active inclusion;
- To demonstrate the principles of youth work through the non-formal learning approach.

The non-formal learning approach has been implemented in the implementation of the program.

The trainers were the youth workers of "Institute Perspectives", Nikola Zhivkov, Marieta Nikolaeva and Hristina Karakoleva, who is the local coordinator of the “Institute Perspectives”. Zlatko Petrov, who had gained experience in several international youth exchanges across Europe, also helped with the preparation of the initiatives.

Thanks to the realization of the initiative, the "Youth Area of Progress Karlovo" club was symbolically established. The club is designed to develop youth potential, using the accumulated knowledge of training courses and European experience gained from participating in international and national youth education projects. The main objective of the club is through the informal learning and presentation of national and European youth strategies to develop key competences in their peers in order to be able to successfully integrate into the labor market. Young people from the "Karlovo Progress Area of Youth" will also strive to create a civilly active youth that will be involved in the public life of their hometown, assisting their development. The club will organize various trainings and will allow their peers to be involved in various projects. It will cooperate closely with “Institute Perspectives” to achieve its goals.

NEW HORIZONS FOR THE YOUTH OF KARLOVO

From December 14 to 23, 2017 in Karlovo, the innovative educational initiative was implemented, with three main objectives:

- Identify the attitudes of young people;
- To promote the active inclusion of young people through the principles of youth work;
- Demonstrate the effectiveness of the non-formal learning approach to the development of key competences for young people.

The proposal to launch the initiative was born in the training "Getting Started to European Values". Coordinator of the initiative was Hristina Karakoleva, who with the support of Zlatina Stoycheva, Venelin Dermendzhiev, Stefan Enchev, Zlatko Petrov, Svetoslav Dishkov, Nina Matova and other young people demonstrated the usefulness of the active interaction between the youth. For 10 days, the Chair of "Perspectives Institute" lived in the town of Karlovo. There were daily events and workshops held in the Arts Department of the Municipal Library, Dr. Ivan Bogorov and the club room at the "Vasil Levski" High school building. The young people in Karlovo had the opportunity to acquire competence for the planning, implementation and evaluation of projects for youth empowerment and activation.

In the implementation of the initiative, the organization's chairperson helped young people to prepare and independently organize youth educational initiatives for full social empowerment. The participants applied the knowledge to identify the needs of the target group; preparation of an educational program; engagement of stakeholders; allocation of responsibilities and tasks; execution; monitoring and evaluation of a youth educational initiative. Participants gained the competence to organize educational initiatives involving non-formal learning methods in accordance with the principles of youth work.

An empirical study was conducted to identify the attitudes, needs and interests of young people in Karlovo and Sopot. The study involved 250 young people aged 14-29, students and workers. They all filled in a blank form with closed questions. The aim of the study was to elucidate the advantages and challenges of affirming universal and European values through non-formal learning methods and the principles of youth work in the context of European Union policies. Youth workers from "Perspectives Institute" gathered systematized data and thus demonstrated the possibilities for follow-up initiatives that could lead to the development of the potential of people in cities such as Karlovo and Sopot. The results of the collected and summarized empirical data have clearly demonstrated the need to raise social and educational initiatives to engage young people's skills. The information from the survey was highly recommended to be presented to the general public of both municipalities. It is important that the results obtained serve as a basis for developing, adopting and implementing local youth policies to address identified challenges. Local authorities and educational institutions have the capacity to create even more favorable conditions for the participation of young people in public processes in the municipalities. The collected data is a clear indication that global challenges have a painful impact on the social and economic sphere in municipalities such as Karlovo and Sopot. Young people clearly demonstrate attitudes to emigration and a weakened value system. The people building the local communities in Karlovo and Sopot need to take urgent measures that will have a preventive impact on the current evolving challenges.

REALIZED IN THE COUNTRY

/Veliko Tarnovo, Polski Trambesh, Plovdiv, Troyan/

PRESS CONFERENCES IN VELIKO TARNOVO

In 2017, three press conferences were held in the BTA Press Club, through which we informed on a regional level about the youth educational initiatives implemented by us, funded by the budget of the Republic of Bulgaria and the European Union.

PRESENTATION OF A TRAINING PROGRAM FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF KEY COMPETENCES

On February 24, 2017 in Hall 30 of the Youth House - Veliko Tarnovo we presented to the directors of secondary and vocational schools, university lecturers, the Dean of the Pedagogical Faculty of the University of Veliko Tarnovo "St. St. Cyril and St. Methodius ", PhD students, youth workers and students, Bulgaria's first-ever training program for the development of key competences through non-formal learning methods, which can be adapted to the formal education system.

FORUM OF YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

On August 6, 2017, Marieta Nikolaeva and Nikola Zhivkov presented the goals, the projects and the mission of organizing a regional forum of youth organizations, which took place in Marno pole in Veliko Tarnovo.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A YOUTH CLUB IN A Polski Trambesh

On October 12, 2017, Chairman of the Institute Perspectives Mr. Ahmed Kuytov, together with the Director of Legal Affairs, Mr. Nikola Zhivkov, participated in the establishment of an informal club to the organization in Polski Trambesh. The event was attended by 20 young people aged 16-18. Mr. Nicholas Brintol was chosen as the head of the club. During the formation, an informal educational method was used to form a group and build trust in the team. Mr Kuytov and Mr. Zhivkov, shared with young people the values, the methods of youth work and also the current and future projects on which the organization operates. The task of the new club will be to promote opportunities for participation in international youth exchanges and to organize events for the development of key competences of young people through the methodology of non-formal learning. The president of the organization donated to the school library publications of Institute Perspectives, which are from already successfully implemented projects. Kind host of the event was "Tsanko Tserkovski" High school.

LOCATION ON TOPIC: MOBBING

On October 13, 2017, Lilia Georgieva and Antonia Kaloyanova, volunteers at "Perspectives Institute" delivered a lecture on the subject at the "National Commercial School" in Plovdiv. They informed the students about the dangers that lie on the Internet and advised what measures to take if students find themselves in a situation that puts them at risk.

WORKING MEETINGS AND TRAINING IN PLOVDIV

From November 24 to 26, 2017 in Plovdiv, a series of events for the development of the organizational capacity of the organization in Plovdiv took place. On November 24, a working dinner was held between the organization's president, the director of Legal Affairs with 7 members of the organization taking part in international education projects under the KD1 program of the "Erasmus +" program. It was decided to involve them in the process of creating international partnerships. On Nov. 25, Ahmed Kuytov and Nikola Zhivkov held a workshop to introduce the members of the organization into the process of establishing international partners. Techniques have been demonstrated to reach out to potential stakeholders and partner organizations, and business emails were created to make new youth coordinators communicate. The final initiative was to carry out simulation training activities that are being carried out during the "Erasmus +" youth projects. Twenty young people from Plovdiv, interested in participating for the first time in youth exchange, took part in it. During the event, the results of our European youth projects have been shared and achieved.

TRAINING - ACTIVATION OF YOUTH

On 07.12.2017. in the town of Troyan, "Perspectives Institute" together with the Information and Cultural Center Troyan held specialized training for over 20 young people interested in full social and professional development. Facilitators of the event were the youth workers Nikola Jivkov and Marieta Nikolaeva. They presented to young people the opportunities for active involvement in national and international projects and the essence of non-formal learning.

EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS WITH A NATIONAL AND EUROPEAN IMPACT.

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AGAINST YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

FUNDED BY KA1, "YOUTH" SECTOR OF ERASMUS + PROGRAM № 2016-3-BG01-KA105-035230, BY CO-FINANCING BY ERASMUS + AND THE HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT CENTER.

The current project is awarded with a quality sign of the traditional Erasmus + Valorisation Conference. Organized by the HRDC on 5.12. 2017

The project has been jointly developed and implemented by eight organizations from Italy, Portugal, France, Belgium, Greece, Slovakia, Romania and the Coordinating Association " Institute Perspectives" from Bulgaria.

The main problem in the European Union is still the very high share of the so- "NEETs - group" - young people who do not work and do not learn. According to Eurostat data from 11 August 2016 at the level of 28 EU Member States, the level of NEETs aged 15-24 is 12%. From the point of view of the challenges posed by the migrant crisis, the population of Europe with people from other cultures and nationalities, the need for innovative solutions for future co-existence arises.

Considering the existence of social problems that are outside the economic sphere and are not overcome by the immanent social functions of entrepreneurship and the market economy. Partner organizations fulfilled the project's main objective by sharing good practice among young people, experts, representatives of public authorities, businesses and social entrepreneurs, raising the knowledge of 32 young people aged 15-24. of the NEETs group and 8 team leaders aged 18+ who are able to develop the process from idea to working model of social entrepreneurship independently or in a group.

The main activities implemented under the project are youth exchange programs, which were held in Svishtov, Bulgaria with the participation of all partner organizations. Thanks to this youth exchange involving 32 young people and 8 team leaders and their joint work for a nine-day period, the main project goal for raising the knowledge of the target group was reached. This project directly affects young people aged 13-30 living in the partner organizations' regions that fall into the NEETs group. All participants organized a single initiative to multiply the experience through which they directly applied the newly acquired competences of youth exchange. The project mainly used the methods and techniques of non-formal education, which were previously agreed with the partners as brainstorming; canava, mandala, presentations; working in

groups; shared space; creative workshops; drama theater; discussions and in-depth discussions; learning through creation; communication points; simulations; gaming techniques like ice break games; energy seekers with an emphasis on the intercultural type and others. All participants jointly prepared 6 ideas for starting a business based on the principles of social entrepreneurship. The ideas were in detail written in a book of good practice. Every idea was visualized through a short film. The participants recognized the main motivation of social entrepreneurship, according to which the person should help solving the social tasks of vulnerable groups and members of society. Developing social entrepreneurship ideas takes the possibility of integrating migrants into the process of implementing social enterprises, which favors the creation of conditions for the engagement of the inactive workforce among migrants, which in turn promotes both tolerance and the promotion of models of work and mutual assistance between the "old" and the "new" Europeans, which is a prerequisite for sustainable and inclusive growth in the EU. The successful implementation of the project activities has had an impact in enhancing the institutional capacity of non-governmental organizations and stakeholders implementing policies in the fields of social policy and education. Access to the learning opportunities of the target groups has been expanded through the use of non-formal methods. Participants updated their knowledge about social entrepreneurial ideas. Implementing ideas in working business models has increased the employability of unemployed youths, which reduces youth unemployment rates in the EU. The newly created conceptual models of social entrepreneurship help to unite the efforts of youth, refugees, non-governmental organizations and investors against the huge problem of youth unemployment, the solution of which according to the participating partner organizations is possible through the creation and implementation of entrepreneurial ideas favoring the social development of the whole European Community.

The educational outcomes achieved for participants in the Youth Exchange are:

- Upgraded skills necessary to work in a multicultural environment through collaboration as part of a team composed of representatives of different nationalities.

- Approved skills to deal with crisis situations in a protected environment.

- Increased competence to communicate in a foreign language.

- New knowledge about different European cultures and traditions.

- Increased theoretical knowledge related to the essence and applicability of social entrepreneurship.

- Increased competences for learning skills, which will help in the future to increase the low functional literacy among young people.

- Developed social and civic competences through which they are better able to interact with the institutions.

- Developed skills to keep up-to-date on youth-related policies, programs and measures.
- Enhanced competencies for initiative and entrepreneurship, through which they are able to practically realize their entrepreneurial ideas.
- New knowledge and development of modern methods and means of social entrepreneurship increased.
- Required competencies for strategic management of social enterprises.
- Accrued competences to develop an organizational strategy that includes diagnostics of the macro-environment and microenvironment of the newly established social organization.
- Competence to develop branch analyzes, an analysis of the state of the social organization, on the basis of which they subsequently develop a strategy for the development of social entrepreneurship.

These results will lead to a successful realization of the labor market. Working together on real-life case studies, group work, etc. youth participants have gained attitudes and self-confidence to launch their own entrepreneurial initiative that has a positive and beneficial impact on the social sphere. Youth participants have realized that the key to successful development is to help people in difficulty and thus develop themselves and their community.

In accordance with the acquired knowledge and competences, young people are able to transform into active citizens developing the European community towards sustainable and inclusive economic growth. For the direct impact on young people aged 13-30, living in the partner organizations' regions that belong to the NEETs group, all participants in youth exchanges organized a single initiative through which they directly applied the newly acquired competences during the youth exchange. Representatives of business, local authorities, donors and active young people were invited to take part in the initiatives. Through the presentation of newly developed models for social entrepreneurship, support was sought in order to actually start the realization of the idea. When developing ideas, the possibility of migrants was taken into consideration, which in turn favors the creation of conditions for the engagement of the inactive workforce among them, which in turn encourages both tolerance and the promotion of patterns of work and mutual assistance between the "old "And" new "Europeans, which is a prerequisite for EU development.

NEW HORIZONS FOR YOUTH FROM SVISHTOV

FINANCED BY NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR YOUTH (2016-2020) Project
No: 011-P2-TO4 / 2016 P Contract No: 25-00-25 / 15.12.2016

The project contributed mainly to the achievement of the strategic goal of the National Youth Program (2016-2020) to create an attractive environment for the development of young people in small settlements and rural areas. Information campaigns and publicity have helped to spread the idea of the project and to increase young people's interest in small settlements to youth activities and opportunities for development. The activities done by the team of "Institute of Perspectives" have also improved the level of awareness among young people in the town of Svishtov and the surroundings of the opportunities for participation in the process of solving important social issues and youth issues.

Action # 1: "We Want to ...".

In the period 12-23.12.2016. Marin Marinov, Katya Grozeva, Yoan Yordanov and Georgi Denkov, who are youth workers from Institute Perspectives and members of the project team, have held 15 workshops with 259 students and students from the territory of Svishtov Municipality. Lively hosts of the workshops were Professional State Commercial School „Dimitar Hadjivasilev”, Middle school "Nikolai Katranov", Middle school "Dimitar Blagoev", Professional School Of Light Industry And Construction-Svishtov, Business Academy „D.A Tsenov”, cultural club of the pensioner Zdravets " in Oresh village, Town Hall of Morava village and Social educational and professional center and St. Kliment Ohridski" in Ovcha Mogila village.

Youth workers, through various non-formal learning techniques and methods, have been able to attract young people's attention to the issues that affect young people. At these workshops, the youth workers aimed at exploring and identifying the needs and interests of Svishtov youth. At each of the meetings, youth workers presented the National Youth Strategy (2012-2020) and the European Youth Strategy (2010-2018). Special emphasis in the workshops was the specific measures taken at national and European level for the development and empowerment of young people from small settlements. After the end of each youth workshop, it was suggested to fill out a questionnaire through which they had to answer five closed questions. In this way, the project team made a local empirical study to identify the attitudes of young people in Svishtov on the implementation of national and European youth policies. 171 young people aged 16-25 were admitted to the study, with girls having 57.9% and 42.1% boys.

The data show that 69.6% of young people did not know that there are strategies at national and European level that are specifically geared to youth development. While 30.4% of young people knew about the existence of strategy papers at national and European level, but in the case of youth workers' questions to share what they regulate and why these papers serve, few were the participants who spoke adequately and corresponded with the truth. During the workshops, youth workers through non-formal learning techniques and an interactive presentation have informed young people about the goals and policies set out in the two strategy papers. The youth workers have emphasized that the Republic of Bulgaria and the European Union have created the prerequisites for the successful development of youth, and through these strategic documents support the policies that contribute to the full development of the young people of Bulgaria.

More information about the empirical survey data can be found in the training program from p.6 to p.13.

Yoan Yordanov said that when working with different schools he had noticed the influence that management and teachers had on the students. He noted that in order to meet national and European youth policies, regular events on this subject are needed.

Georgi Denkov, after working with the young people, noted that no matter how different the ideas and problems of the young people stand out; there are common problems that affect everyone. He had noticed that there were youngsters who wanted a positive change for their city, but many young people did not have the motivation to be active and take specific action.

Katya Grozeva felt that what has been achieved is great because we managed to infect the young people with our positive energy and to tell them that everything is possible as long as you want it. At first they were all timid, but at the end of the meetings, the true youth spirit was felt.

Marin Marinov, said: "The meetings were very useful and will help to develop and adapt the training program. Many of the youngsters were not familiar with the methods of non-formal learning, but after each meeting they saw their effectiveness. "

Action 2: „The Power of the Youth Work“

Between 12th and 15th January 2017, through a variety of methods and techniques of non-formal learning, we trained 30 young people aged 15-25. Participants in the training have acquired a qualification to work with young people at risk of social exclusion. After training, they will ensure the prevention of radicalization and expropriation of their peers' institutions. Throughout the training, participants increased their competencies to promote self-organizing events promoting active youth inclusion. On casework, the participants gained

practical experience - how to apply non-formal learning methods when working with young people in formal education institutions. There were special simulations in the training where the participants developed their skills for the implementation of non-formal learning methods aimed at promoting youth inclusion, implementing activities in partnership with local authorities and other stakeholders. Youth workers are now able to handle the methods of passing on the common core values of our society to the particularly difficult to reach - young people.

Participants in the learning process learned how to ensure the prevention of radical radicalization among young people. The thirty participants have improved their teamwork skills, crisis work skills and, above all, their rhetorical ability to express themselves to the public. The youngsters also prepared a training film that they published in our organization's YouTube channel - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zeloFLH209Q>

Thanks to the "Power of the Youth Worker" we managed to achieve a goal of Action 2, which also guarantees the effective implementation of the project. The training was able to promote youth work and to create 30 new youth workers in Svishtov Municipality, the majority of whom continued to work with the Institute Perspectives on its projects and activities after the training. Trained youth workers have become more proactive, more communicative and ready to stand up and realize their ideas and dreams. They have gained practical experience of using non-formal learning methods when working with young people in formal education institutions such as schools and universities. They also improved their skills to implement non-formal learning methods aimed at promoting youth inclusion and activities in partnership with local authorities and other stakeholders.

After the training, the youth workers are able to use methods to convey the common core values of our society to the particularly difficult to reach young people. The participants gained knowledge on how to ensure the prevention of radical radicalization of young people. They have developed good teamwork capabilities, most of them are present daily in the Institute Perspectives' office and discussing different ideas for projects and activities. They have acquired better rhetorical and presentation skills. They have become more brave and active young people, ready to work with young people at risk of social exclusion.

Action 3: „Development and adaptation of a training program for the development of key competences.“

Based on the identified problems of Action 1 "We Want to ...?" And the analysis of the data obtained from the empirical study, as well as the training "The Power of the Youth Worker". Young people, teachers, university lecturers and experts

in the field of non-formal learning and youth work created the training program. For its creation they had a common mission - to help the young person become a person who can be fully realized in European society. The authors team has extensive experience and direct access to the young people trained in the formal educational institutions of the Municipality of Svishtov. On the other hand, some of the authors of the training program are students from 9 to 12 grade in different schools in Svishtov. On the other hand, the youth workers of "Perspectives Institute" have extensive practical experience at European level, gained through participation in more than 40 international projects under the European Commission programs "Youth in Action" (2007-2013) and KD1 "Youth" Erasmus + "(2014-2020). Fully supporting the development of the methodology of non-formal learning and youth work. By creating a equality between pupils, teachers and youth workers, a training program has been created through four joint workshops, the main purpose of which is to become a mechanism to:

- Provide up-to-date information on ongoing policies in the field of non-formal learning and youth work at national and European level.
- Provide information on national and European mechanisms for the empowerment of young people from small settlements.
- Define the essence and relevance of key competencies.
- Provide practical non-formal learning techniques that can be adapted to the teaching lessons of general subjects in the formal education system.
- Encourage civic participation of young people from small settlements.

The training program deals fully with the techniques and methods of non-formal learning, through which the main key competences of the young people from the territory of the Municipality of Svishtov develop. This innovative program has created a valuable tool for the Svishtov community through which young people can develop their personal skills according to their own interests and needs, which is a prerequisite for improving their preparation for employment.

The authors team held 4 meetings - discussions, defining the final structure of the program. They distributed the main points and tasks for writing by specific authors. After the program was prepared, the book was printed in a volume of 118 pages A5 format, which was printed in 300 copies. The next step was to offer the program for adaptation to curricula for extra-curricular activities in the formal educational institutions of the town of Svishtov (schools and universities). With the development and adaptation of the program, the project's specific objective of providing access to development services based on youth work and the individual approach to the youth was implemented. The establishment of the training program was filled with the lack of a mechanism to provide up-to-date information on the ongoing youth policies at national level. The young people in Svishtov received information on how to develop their potential and opportunities. We hope this will lead to a better realization in the labor market because young people will acquire better labor competencies. The

developed program has created a mechanism which, through the techniques and methods of non-formal education, involved and will involve the young people of Svishtov in events and initiatives from which they will be able to receive up-to-date information on the implemented youth policies as well as information about the conducted youth policies. In this way they will have the opportunity to engage and develop their key competences, which is subsequently a prerequisite for better realization in the labor market. Immediately after the preparation of the program, we signed a cooperation agreement with Professional State Commercial School "Dimitar Hadjivasilev" according to which Perspectives Institute undertakes to provide youth workers, who in the 4th year, together with teachers to implement an innovative teaching method in Entrepreneurship, History and Civilization and Citizenship. However, we can also train teachers to work with non-formal learning techniques.

Action 4: "Help and Impact"

8 information days were held in the period from 7th to 17th February 2017. For the development of key competences information leaflets, brochures, pens and specimens of the training program were disseminated. The campaign fulfilled its goal and was carried out very successfully. In each of the information days there were at least 10 young people who were divided into two or three groups and located in different parts of the city to conduct the information activity themselves. In this way, they improved their communication skills, introduced young people to the opportunities of national and international youth programs and also gained self-confidence of good and successful youth workers. Through the information campaign, the National Youth Program (2016-2020) is being promoted. The young people of Svishtov were aware of the principles of the European Charter for the Participation of Young People in the Life of Municipalities and Regions. The information days were held in various key parts of the town of Svishtov as follows: 1-Center; 2-square Veleshana; 3-square Svoboda. 4-neighborhood Rila, 5-neighborhood. "Danube". 6-neighborhood. "Stoyan Nikov". Over 600 young people were informed about this campaign.

SUSTAINABILITY OF RESULTS AND PROJECT EFFECT

A large number of newly educated youth workers continue to develop through participation in other local, national and international projects of "Institute Perspectives". They will continue to attract and empower youth from the NEETs Group for follow-up initiatives by the organization. They will implement the lessons learned and will broaden the range of activities they will undertake supported by "Institute Perspectives". The most active participants of the project are to participate in three international youth exchanges under the

Erasmus + program, in which the Association "Institute Perspectives" is an official partner organization.

The effect on the local community is the increased interest of young people in activities of social importance. During the spring and summer months the youths involved in the activities for New Horizons for Svishtov youth will take action for the renovation of an old and abandoned building in the city center as well as the renovation to public terrains, which be transformed into development centers for the key competences.

TRAINING FOR THE CONTROL OF THE MAIN PRINCIPLES OF YOUTH WORK AND NON-FORMAL LEARNING IN THE CONTEXT OF INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGES UNDER THE ERASMUS+ PROGRAM

From September 22th to 24th, we launched an intensive training course for 30 young people from over 12 Bulgarian cities, which will participate in international youth exchanges in October and November 2017. The training was aimed:

- To prepare participants for beneficial inclusion in international youth exchanges;
- To equip participants with the principles of youth work in the context of EU policies;
- To demonstrate to learners the essence of learning through the methodology of non-formal learning;
- To create prerequisites for convergence and understanding among the participants;
- To present techniques and methods for resolving conflicts in an international context;
- To demonstrate the essence of interacting and performing group tasks in accordance with European values and horizontal policies for equal opportunities for participation.

As a result of their full involvement, the participants gained the following educational results:

- Competence to interact with individuals with a different profile and cultural identity;
- Competence to implement youth initiatives in line with the principles of youth work, European values and non-formal learning methodology;

- Increased sensitivity and readiness to resolve conflicting situations in accordance with universal European values;
- Understanding of the strength and impact of youth educational initiatives as a tool for local development;

Several simulations of situations of international youth exchanges were implemented during the training. Conditions for learning through experience were created. The participants were placed in situations that motivated them to leave their area of comfort.

The educational team consisted of 4 coaches - two principals and two assistants. The major trainers have completed a specialized course organized by the European Commission and the Salto Resource Centers - "The Power of Non-formal Learning". Assistant coaches are part of the team of the Institute Perspectives Association and have the necessary competencies to conduct training sessions dealing with the methodology of non-formal learning. The cost of accommodation, meals and tea breaks of the participants was provided by the organization's own funds raised through voluntary membership dues.

INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVES AND PROJECTS

From 2015 to 2017, the Association „Institute Perspectives” participated as a partner organization in 30 Erasmus + Youth Program KA1 Youth Projects and enabled 200 young and disadvantaged young people to increase their key competencies, through which in the future they have a better chance for successful social and career realization in Bulgaria and the European Union. Youth exchanges took place on the territory of cities all over the Europe.

2015

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR GENERATIONS

GOOD PRACTICE EXAMPLE

Project Reference: 2015-1-TR01-KA105-014678

EU Grant: 12 414 EUR

Topics: Access for disadvantaged, Entrepreneurial learning - entrepreneurship education.

NON FORMAL EDUCATION OF THE PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED IN SPORT

Project Reference: 2015-3-TR01-KA105-024777

EU Grant: 12 168 EUR

Topics: Disabilities - special needs, Healthy lifestyle, active ageing

2016

EVERY VOICE MATTERS!

Project Reference: 2016-1-EE01-KA105-017121

EU Grant: 24 219.37 EUR

Topics: Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy); Reaching the policy level/dialogue with decision makers EU Citizenship; EU awareness and Democracy

GREEN R(EVOLUTION)

Project Reference: 2016-1-TR01-KA105-031175

EU Grant: 16 332 EUR

Topics: Environment and climate change, Health and wellbeing, International cooperation, international relations, development cooperation.

determinateYOUrself

Project Reference: 2016-1-PL01-KA105-023823

EU Grant: 20 069 EUR

Topics: New innovative curricula/educational methods/development of training courses, Inclusion – equity, Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy)

VOICE OF DIVERSITY IN EUROPE!

Project Reference: 2016-1-TR01-KA105-029854

EU Grant: 13 527 EUR

Topics: Access for disadvantaged, Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy), International cooperation, international relations, development cooperation.

NO NEED FOR NEET!

Project Reference: 2016-3-SK02-KA105-001196

EU Grant: 13 320 EUR

Topics: Labour market issues incl. career guidance / youth unemployment; Early School Leaving / combating failure in education; Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy)

SHAKING THE TOWN

Project Reference: 2016-3-ES02-KA105-009003

EU Grant: 24 874 EUR

Topics: Health and wellbeing, Environment and climate change, Rural development and urbanization.

OUR STEPS FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Project Reference: 2016-3-IT03-KA105-009410

EU Grant: 15 908 EUR

Topics: Environment and climate change, Creativity and culture, Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy)

Migrants: A Youth Work Perspective

Project Reference: 2016-1-BGE04-KA105-001800

2017

STARTUP! YOUR CAREER!

Project Reference: 2017-1-HR01-KA105-035108

EU Grant: 19 830 EUR

Topics: Entrepreneurial learning - entrepreneurship education; Labour market issues incl. career guidance / youth unemployment

IDEA: I DREAM ENTREPRENEURIAL ACTIONS

Project Reference: 2017-1-SK02-KA105-001301

EU Grant: 22 805 EUR

Topics: Labour market issues incl. career guidance / youth unemployment, Entrepreneurial learning - entrepreneurship education

PLAY WITH LIFE

Project Reference: 2017-1-TR01-KA105-041031

EU Grant: 23 509.06 EUR

Topics: Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy), Access for disadvantaged, Recognition (non-formal and informal learning/credits).

TALES OF INCLUSION

Project Reference: 2017-2-IT03-KA105-011074

EU Grant: 21 406 EUR

Topics: Integration of refugees; Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy); Creativity and culture

CODEASE

Project Reference: 2017-2-TR01-KA105-046951

EU Grant: 12 176 EUR

Topics: ICT - new technologies - digital competences; Open and distance learning; New innovative curricula/educational methods/development of training courses

RAISE YOUR VOICE!

Project Reference: 2017-2-IT03-KA105-011396

EU Grant: 11 268 EUR

Topics: Social dialogue; Reaching the policy level/dialogue with decision makers; Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy)

SHARE AND GO

Project Reference: 2017-2-IT03-KA105-011503

EU Grant: 21 389 EUR

Topics: Entrepreneurial learning - entrepreneurship education, Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy), ICT - new technologies - digital competences.

DIGIMEDIA RESPONSIBILITY TO BE!

Project Reference: 2017-2-LV02-KA105-001735

EU Grant: 15 275 EUR

Topics: Labour market issues incl. career guidance / youth unemployment, EU Citizenship, EU awareness and Democracy, ICT - new technologies - digital competences.

(IN)VISIBLE BORDERS

Project Reference: 2017-2-FR02-KA105-013130

EU Grant: 19 388 EUR

Topics: Access for disadvantaged, Creativity and culture EU Citizenship, EU awareness and Democracy.

ACTIVATE FOR EUROPE

Project Reference: 2017-2-ES02-KA105-009925

EU Grant: 23 364 EUR

Topics: Environment and climate change, Healthy lifestyle, active ageing; Health and wellbeing.

INNOLAB - ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS FOR NGOS MANAGEMENT

Project Reference: 2017-2-CY02-KA105-001065

EU Grant: 19 103 EUR

Topics: Entrepreneurial learning - entrepreneurship education, Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy), Creativity and culture.

SOCIAL MEDIA FOR POSITIVE CHANGE

Project Reference: 2017-3-PL01-KA105-047000

EU Grant: 13 417 EUR

Topics: ICT - new technologies - digital competences, Social dialogue, Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy)

CONNECT WITH ART TO LIFE

Project Reference: 2017-3-TR01-KA105-047881

EU Grant: 27 896 EUR

Topics: Access for disadvantaged, Disabilities - special needs, Inclusion - equity

WORK UP

Project Reference: 2017-3-RO01-KA105-047087

EU Grant: 25 254 EUR

Topics: Labour market issues incl. career guidance / youth unemployment, Entrepreneurial learning - entrepreneurship education, Inclusion – equity.

LAUNCH A CAREER

Project Reference: 2017-3-HR01-KA105-046885

EU Grant: 12 325 EUR

Topics: Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy), Labour market issues incl. career guidance / youth unemployment, Entrepreneurial learning - entrepreneurship education.

BE YOUR OWN BOSS

Project Reference: 2017-3-CY02-KA105-001136

EU Grant: 26 211 EUR

Topics: Entrepreneurial learning - entrepreneurship education, Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy), Creativity and culture.

ARTS FOR INCLUSION

Start: 14-01-2018 - End: 13-12-2018

Project Reference: 2017-3-CY02-KA105-001132

EU Grant: 23 536 EUR

Topics: Access for disadvantaged, Creativity and culture Inclusion – equity

IT'S TIME TO VOLUNTEER!

Project Reference: 2018-1-HR01-KA105-047276

EU Grant: 20 876 EUR

Topics: Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy), New innovative curricula/educational methods/development of training courses, EU Citizenship, EU awareness and Democracy.

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ACTIVITIES OF INSTITUTE PERSPECTIVES FOR THE FIRST HALF OF 2018

From January till June 2018 we analyzed the sustainability of our projects funded by the budget of the national agency and EU implemented between 2016 and 2017. We started new initiatives which have to help the EU integration of people living in rural areas of Bulgaria.

We planned, organized and evaluated the effects of 3 new methodologies about civil initiatives and increased the knowledge about EU in the young people living in rural areas of Bulgaria.

While organizing and implementing the new methodologies, we were following the generally accepted EU values. By using non-formal education and national strategies for direct participation in the civil process of forming the local politics, we accomplished good results which will be shared in order to invite national and European partners.

METHODOLOGY DEVELOPED BY THE INSTITUTE PERSPECTIVES FIRST STEPS TOWARDS EU VALUES

Purpose: The main idea is to create understanding in young people about the values of human dignity, democracy, equality, that no one is above the law and to respect human rights, as well as human rights of people belonging to the minorities. Those values have to be the foundation on which young people have to develop their skill for solving problems, critical thinking and cooperation.

Challenges:

- In December 2016, in Svishtov, we conducted a local survey about the recognition of EU youth policies. The result were worrying, 69.6% of the young people aged 15-29 in the survey said that they had no knowledge of the existence of special policies for the youth.
- In December 2017, in Karlovo and Sopot, we conducted an identical local study. The result shows that 81.67% of young people are unaware of the existence of European youth strategies and policies. This is a clear indication that youth EU strategies have very low effectiveness among young people living in rural areas of Bulgaria.

Plan for action:

Phase 1 - *Development of an educational program that is specific for working on the field with the youth.* In the preparation, attention will be paid to the specificity of the region. What are the most common prejudices and stereotypes? We will establish partnerships with different stakeholders. Also, we will carefully select the right educational tool in order to avoid provoking prejudices and negative impact.

Phase 2 - *Through using the method of Socrates, participants will be involved.* Youth workers or volunteers will establish contact with the target group and will give them 1 to 3 questions on important topics which aim to stimulate young people to respond. This method can be used in school breaks or breaks between lectures in the university as well as on social media. Only in case of interest from the young people, the representatives of the Institute Perspectives inform them how they can participate in the initiative.

Phase 3 - *Training course.* When the training course is conducted, the trainers will have to merge with the group. The trainers have to create a positive and encouraging atmosphere, which helps the participants give their best. When the trainers ask participants about the program and the goals that are set in, the trainers have to encourage them to act according their feelings, ideas and desires. Every training course will have the following stages: participants getting to know each other better, creating a team spirit, role-playing to distinguish the different learning methods, team working on a case, simulation, creating a strategy leading to sustainable results, general debriefing of the activities and personal reflection.

Phase 4 – *Identifying the strengths of participants.* After the end of phase 3, the trainees and two volunteers with psychological competence constantly monitor the actions of the participants and their attitudes towards the educational process and goals, also their relationship with others participants and self-control. After phase 3, the trainers conduct interviews and special tests through which young people will have better understanding of their talents and skills.

Phase 5 – *Motivation for creating their own Youth club.* Experts from Institute Perspectives prepare short video materials which focus on the positive effects of phase 3. In the video they emphasize the strengths of the team and the need to continue to develop the society in which they live in. The video will emphasize the positive effects that participants would have on their professional, social and personal development by taking part in such youth clubs.

Phase 6 –*Principles of youth work and the methodology of non-formal learning.* Youth workers and experts from Institute Perspectives live in the city or village where the youth club is founded for a period of 7 to 14 days. Together they search for possible local partners in order to establish good practices as well as organizing events for gathering volunteers.

Phase 7 - *Youth club initiatives.*

The young people who created the club, along with the volunteers will start brainstorming initiatives that can have a positive impact on their local community. Experts and youth workers of Institute Perspectives will help only by giving guidance. All the work will be done by the young people who set the foundation of their club. By implementing the knowledge gained from their work with our experts and the trainings they will gain the needed competence to become local educational leaders and innovators.

Activities performed:

- 9th – 21th January 2018 we applied the methodology in Oryahovo.
- February the 1th till April 5th 2018 - We applied the methodology at national level (phase 3 was held in Svishtov).
- 12 - 22 April 2018 we applied the methodology in Vratsa.

Participants involved:

Institute Perspectives involved 60 young people with limited opportunities for taking part in European educational initiatives and activities. Those young people live in small towns in Bulgaria such as Oryahovo, Momchilgrad, Borovo, Novi Pazar, Byala - Rousse, Troyan, Karlovo and Svishtov, as well as in villages in the district territories of Vratsa, Stara Zagora, Targovishte, Razgrad and Shumen.

Results:

- More than 400 young people living in rural arrears of Bulgaria gained or improve their knowledge and understanding about EU values and are ready to participate in more educational activities. Young people gain competence to search and stand up their right of quality education and better life in their region.
- We signed a partnership agreement with the Municipality of Oryahovo.
- We attended 19 working meetings with directors of 19 schools in Pleven, Lykovit, Botevgrad, Byala, Popovo, Targovishte and Razgrad where we presented our methodology for including education.
- 60 young people at the age of 14 till 29 have improved the following competencies:

Better communication in different and complicated situation by adjusting their communications skill.

Better use of digital technologies to promote active citizenship and social inclusion.

Collaboration with others in order to achieve personal, social and professional goals.

Competence to define their own abilities to focus and tackles complex tasks and to stimulate critical thinking and decision-making.

An open mindset to different people and cultures.

Readiness to spread knowledge to other young people in their rural areas and not only there.

CONVERGENCE/COHESION OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Main goal: Create an environment for socio-economic development by engaging the benefits of youth work, business and vocational education in accordance with the principles of social entrepreneurship.

Identified problems in the city of Svishtov:

- Unrecognizance of human rights and manifestations of mental and verbal hatred against gender equality.
- Disturbed interpersonal relationships and barriers to communication as a result of prejudices and stereotypes.
- Lack of understanding between employer and employees due to unfamiliarity with the process of trust + responsibility = progress.
- Young people are not involved in any activities that lead to personal, social and professional development.
- Insufficient coordination between the staff needs of the local business and the existing vocational education.

Measures taken:

Against the violence in the name of honor. On the 20th and 21st of February, we launched two initiatives aimed at promoting respect for human rights and gender equality. We have been supported by experts of “Gender Project Bulgaria”. Through a discussion between people from Svishtov demonstrating ignorance of the essence of human rights and opposing the Istanbul Convention and youth workers and women's rights experts, in a tone of

tone and mutual respect, the main issues of gender conflict leading to violations of human rights were identified.

Spanish cultural evening. On March 29th, for the first time in Svishtov, a cultural evening, based on the principles of social entrepreneurship and youth work, was carried out. Together with students from vocational high school “Aleko Konstantinov” and Club "Splash", we combined the talents of young people with the desire of the people in Svishtov to participate in a cultural event. The contribution of the school was to provide competent students and elite teachers who had to prepare traditional Spanish dishes. Club “Splash” provided its facilities and equipment for the event. We organized the coordination between the parties and qualified the participants to realize events in accordance with the principles of social entrepreneurship and youth work. With funds from the organization, we bought the products that were deliciously cooked.

English tea. On March 12th and 19th, we conducted discussions in English on the following subjects:

- The Public Stereotypes in Svishtov.
- The Role and the Future of the Young People in Svishtov.

In the course of carrying out the initiatives, the youth workers applied their approach to actively involve the participants in the discussion according to their personal advantages. By engaging the verbal arguments of the participants, mutually observed phenomena have been jointly observed. Through the method the communication, skills of the participants were improved and the challenges, hampering the personal expression, were removed.

Involved participants: Over a hundred citizens of Svishtov Municipality who were engaged in the field of business, education and social activities, as well as owners and business managers, directors of vocational schools, teachers, social workers, employees and unemployed people.

Outcome: The understanding of the importance of behaviour, consistent with recognition and respect for gender equality and human rights has increased. As a result, employers became more aware of their responsibility towards those working in their companies and employees' trust in businesses has improved.

The first attempts to create new forms of employment for young people meeting their needs were made. Furthermore, a better communication between the businesses and the directors of vocational high schools was set.

NEW HORIZONS FOR CHILDREN

Main objective: To create a specially design program for children from rural areas of Bulgaria to participate in educational activities that will raise their awareness for essential children rights and common EU values. The educational approach that is going to be used will develop coordination, concentration, memory, problem solving skill, analytical reading in children aged 3 to 13.

Results: The implemented 7 initiatives will serve as a basis for further development of early childhood education programs that will meet the needs of children in terms of well-being and education.

Challenges:

- High levels of aggression among children;
- Low levels of awareness about the social environment around children;
- Low levels of awareness about the psychical process creating psychical traumas in early child age;
- Absence of proper tools for inclusive education and care for children in early age that stops the problems of social exclusion.

Phase 1. Preparation and synchronization.

Experts and youth workers at the Perspectives Institute first meet the school head. During the meeting, the EU's educational policies are presented to encourage the implementation of innovative educational activities for children. There is a meeting with the pedagogical specialists and their introduction into the methods of non-formal learning. Parents are informed about the forthcoming innovative event.

Phase 2. Realization of educational activities with children.

Youth workers, together with teachers and pedagogical specialists, implement the educational program and create the conditions for the active inclusion of children.

Phase 3. Realization of general educational activity between parents and children. In the period of 2 to 7 days after the implementation of Phase 2, an educational initiative is being carried out involving parents.

Participants included:

- Over 60 children aged 3 - 8 and their parents from Children garden "Radost", Children Garden "Vasil Levski" and 1B st grade from Middle School "Nikolay Katranov" Svishtov.
- More than 20 children aged 8 - 13 years old from the Learning center "Linguistics" city of Karlovo.

The result: The 7 initiatives (4 with children and 3 with parents and children) will serve as a foundation for the further development of early childhood education programs to meet the needs of children in terms of well-being and education.

PARTICIPATION IN CREATING LOCAL POLICIES

ACCEPTANCE OF STRATEGY FOR INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

On April 24th, 2018, according to art. 39 paragraph 3 from the Rules book of Municipality Council – Svishtov, we asked for a chance to tell our opinion on one of the topics for the meeting which was for recognizing a Strategy about the inclusive education. Our statement was presented by the Chairman of Association Institute Perspectives - Mr. Ahmed Kuytov, and the video is available in our YouTube channel.

STATEMENT OF INSTITUTE PERSPECTIVES ON THE RECOGNITION FROM SVISHTOV MUNICIPALITY STRATEGY FOR INCLUSIVE EDUCATION

As Chairman of Institute Perspectives, I present to you the statement for Shishtov Municipality Strategy for Inclusive Education.

According Art. 96 (2) of the Act of kindergarten and school education, non-profit organizations working in the field of inclusive education participate in the development of this Strategy. In Art. 3 of the Regulation on for inclusive education is said:

It is the process of accepting and supporting the individuality and learning needs of each child or young person. The inclusive education aims to remove the obstacles in learning process and creating opportunities for development and participation of children and students in all aspects of community life.

According to Art. 3, Paragraph 11 of the Act of kindergarten and school Education, non-profit organizations are also involved in the implementation of the process.

Association Institute Perspectives which has a status of a non-profit organization in public benefit that for the past three years has implemented many activities that fully contribute to the sustainability and implementation of inclusive education on the territory of Svishtov Municipality.

In April 2016, we held a 10-day international exchange with 49 experts from 7 European educational organizations. The main result was development of knowledge and skills in young people for entrepreneurship and better awareness of the local community about EU.

The accumulated experience was invested in the creation of the first Summer Academy "Perspectives" in Bulgaria. For the quality of the education process, foreign youth workers with qualification from universities in Spain, Poland, Italy and France took care of the program. From July to September

2016, they organized daily activities for the young people in Svishtov. The result was that 30 qualified young people with competence to carry out educational activities leading to the inclusion of other young people.

All by them self they prepared and fulfil the activities of the project "New Horizons for the Youth in Svishtov" funded by the Ministry of youth and sport. Through the project were made 15 workshops with the participation of 260 young people from Svishtov and the local villages. They conducted a 4-day training through which 30 young people have acquired a qualification to work with young people at risk of social exclusion. We wrote the first training program in Bulgaria for developing key competences in formal education institutions through the methodology of non-formal learning.

In April 2017 we held a second 9-day international exchange in Svishtov with experts from 8 EU public and educational organizations. As a result from their 9-day work, we created 6 models for social entrepreneurship to include young people from the NEETs group. The 40 participants acquired the skill to develop social entrepreneurship from the idea to the working model. This project was awarded with the sign of quality performance by the National Agency, and only 2 projects from over 120 throughout the country have been awarded with this sign.

From March to September 2017, 5 youth workers from Germany, France and Italy implemented over 30 local educational initiatives to engage the potential of young people in vulnerable situations.

In September we made our first national training in Bulgaria where 23 young people from the whole country gained the needed competence to create educational activities for local development through the principles of youth work in the context of EU policies. As a result from the national training youth clubs of Institute Perspectives were created in Polski Trambesh, Karlovo and Plovdiv.

On 21st November 2017, we made a proposal to the Committee of Health, Social Policy, Youth, Sport and Tourism in Svishtov Municipal Council. In the proposal we made clear the problems that we have seen in our work the young people in Svishtov. The Commission decided to form a work group and assured us that the Administration would seek us for more information and help. We are still waiting for an invitation...

From April the 1st to April 5th, we conducted another national training with 20 young people from 10 cities. The main goal was to gather active young people from different rural arrears of Bulgaria to create partnerships and together to organize initiatives leading to local development. The planned period is the spring and summer of 2018.

From the 20th till the 22nd of April we organized some activities in Youth center Vratsa.

In May, we had an invitation to start a youth club in Targovishte. At the beginning of the week, we signed a partnership agreement with Oryahovo Municipality for youth development and inclusion.

From 2012 to 31st December 2017 as partners, we had been involved in the implementation of over 30 international projects managed directly by the European Commission. Through them, we have qualified over 200 young people, teachers and experts from the educational and public sector on topics directly related to inclusive education.

At this moment we are partners and implementing 10 projects for inclusive education through the methodology of non-formal learning and the principles of youth work with coordinating educational public and non-profit organizations in Cyprus, Croatia, Italy, Romania and Poland.

Dear fellow citizens of Svishtov!

Association "Institute Perspectives" was not invited in the process of developing the Strategy for Inclusive Education in Svishtov!

My question to the competent people from the Municipal Council, is ... "Why Institute Perspective was not invited when the strategy for inclusive education was developed?"

Thank you!

After the speech there was no comments from the Municipal Councilors. The strategy was voted and adopted, with only 1 of the attending councilors voting "abstentions". Everyone else voted "yes".

PROPOSAL FOR BUILDING A STREET FITNESS AREA IN SVISHTOV CITY.

On 17th May, with № 3017 we submitted a proposal to the Municipality. In the same day we published an informative video, containing the information about our proposal, in Youtube, which in only one day had scored over 400 views from the citizens of Svishtov¹. In the following lines we present the content of the document.

„Dear Mr.Chairman of Municipality in Svishtov, according to ar.39 p.3 from the statute book of the organization and the action of Municipality of Svishtov, its committees and its interaction with the municipal administration (mandate 2015-2019). We offer you at the regular meeting of the Municipal

¹ https://youtu.be/Ay_Y44Aa8JI

Council in May 2018 to make a decision about building a Streets Fitness area in Svishtov.

Motifs:

-With decision №841 of the Municipality, formed on 26.04.2018., Prot. № 53 is accepted a Municipal strategy for support of personal growth of the children and students in Svishtov 2018-2020. The goal of the strategy is to support the personal growth and the terms of progress and participation of the children and students in every aspect of life and he community, on the territory of Svishtov, via the insurance of support of the personal growth in physiologically and psychologically healthy social environment.

-According to A.2 of the Law of youth, the Municipalities create healthy environment for a complete personal growth of the youngsters and their participation in the social and economical life, as well as their integration in management of local, regional and national level, via activities encouraging the progress of youngsters in Bulgaria.

Applications:

1.Copy of a signature document including over 2100 signatures of citizens in Svishtov.

2.A budget offer for building the needed Street fitness area.

By the following date of June 17th, 2018, we still do not have information from the Svishtov Municipal Council about the state of our proposal.

RESULTS AND POLITICAL EFFECT

On 31.05.2018, a regular meeting of the Municipality of Svishtov was held. The Council of OBS have read*2 the proposals for editing the statute book for the activity of the Municipality². The main accepted changes are:

-A.71. Municipal councillors shall be invited at a regular meeting at least 3 days in advance and at extraordinary meetings not later than one working day before the meeting, altogether with the invitation, the agenda items and the day, the time, the place and the draft agenda for the meeting. Our reference to the official site of the Municipality of Svishtov shows that on 16 February 2018 at 16:27:55 a news is published, in which is said that the Municipal Council of Svishtov will hold its regular meeting on 22.02.2018 /Thursday/ from 15.00h, auditorium № 1 of the Municipality³. On march the 23t at 16:31:05h the citizen are informed that the Municipality of Svishtov will conduct a regular meeting

² http://svishtov.bg/images/docs/docs_1551519778.pdf

³ http://svishtov.bg/news_detail.php?id=5965

on 29.03.2018 /Thursday/ at 15.00h. in auditorium № 1 of the Municipality⁴. On the 20th of April at 16:57:02h. was shared a news - the Municipality of Svishtov will conduct a regular meeting on 26. 04.2018 /Thursday/ at 15.00h. In auditorium № 1 of the Municipality⁵.

From now on, the agenda will be published three days earlier, and we can expect this to happen at the end of the working day.

-A.39 p.3, At the beginning of each meeting, after the adoption of the agenda, citizens can speak, ask questions, opinions and suggestions of the competence of the Municipality. The mayor or the municipal administration on the agenda of public interest and receive replies if they have made a written request to the Chairman of the Municipal Council at least two days before the day of the meeting. Exposure time is up to three minutes.

A new paragraph 4 is added, according to which citizens who are disturbing in the meetings, are drunk, break the line or make offensive words to persons in the room are removed from the meeting.

With the current changes, the citizens actually have a few hours to file a written request for a regular session. In addition, citizens are not allowed to expose their positions during extraordinary sessions as they get called 1 day earlier, and the condition to participate in a session is 2 days earlier to make a request. With the new par. 4, citizens raising uncomfortable questions can be removed from the sessions. In conclusion, on 17.06. 2018 on the site of the Municipality are not available the decisions of the Municipal Council.

Art. 44, according to which the Meetings of the Municipal Council may be transmitted directly or by mass media. The new text stipulates that - the meetings of the OSC may be covered by persons holding a valid journalistic card. This change suspends the possibility for citizens to broadcast their public civil positions via digital technologies.

⁴ http://svishtov.bg/news_detail.php?id=6025

⁵ http://svishtov.bg/news_detail.php?id=6066