

3rd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship

Report on the 3rd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global CitizenshipYouth.org: actors for change! Hammamet, Tunisia 1-8 June 2015

Youth.org: actors for change!







3nd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship

Youth.org: actors for change!

Centre de Vacances et de Loisirs pour Enfants Hammamet, Tunisia, from the 1st to the 5th of June 2015











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1. Abbreviations

СоЕ	Council of Europe		
EU	European Union		
GE	Global Education		
ICD	Intercultural Dialogue		
IDEA	Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance		
LAS	League of Arab States		
MedUni	Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship		
NFE	Non Formal Education		
NGOs	Non-Governmental organization		
SPDP	Structured Participation in Democratic Processes		
CNJC	National Youth Council of Catalonia		
FNJ	Italian National Youth Forum		
ONJ	National Youth Observatory of Tunisia		
ALF	Anna Lindh Foundation		
EU	European Union		

2. Rapporteur's Foreword

The Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship is both a life-affirming and life-changing experience regardless of the role one holds during this one-week long event. Taking part in the MedUni either as a participant, trainer, partner, guest or organizer, the experience is rewarding and life-enhancing. It opens doors and hearts for the overall societal development as well as personal growth.

Even though the Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship is the youngest sister of the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship, the University is becoming more mature and seasoned with new ideas and practices shared by youth leaders and workers from Europe and Africa.

This year's edition represented an incubator of reflection for young people on their self and the part they can play in the Euro-Mediterranean societies within a wider context of global challenges.



MedUni 2015 brought together eminent speakers and inspiring participants from both sides of the Mediterranean Sea, transforming the MedUni into a collective learning momentum. This learning lab allowed for knowledge and practice sharing among young people and members of the quadrilogue.

It was a privilege to take part in the 3rd Mediterranean university on Youth and Global Citizenship, in Hammamet (Tunisia) and I am extremely grateful for this great learning experience. In this vein, this short report gives an account of this learning exercise that enabled participants to reflect on and explore

their potential as actors for change.

This report seeks to summarise all the activities that took place during this year's University on Youth and Global Citizenship. It offers an insight into MedUni goals and principles and looks at the main activities that gathered almost all MedUni participants, namely during the Opening ceremony, the Joint Session, the Quadrilogue and the Closing session. In a second part, it attempts at presenting the partners' activities that took place in parallel.

3. The 3rd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship



MedUni 2015

The 3rd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship (MedUni) was organised by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe (NSC-CoE) in co-operation with the National Youth Observatory of Tunisia (ONJ) and in partnership with the Youth Department of the Council of Europe, the EU-CoE youth partnership, the League of Arab States (LAS), the European Youth Forum and the Italian National Youth Forum and the National Youth Council of Catalonia.

It is the youngest University of the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship that is facilitated by the Centre and it is inspired by the model of the University on Youth and Development (UYD) that takes place annually in Mollina, Spain, since 2000.

MedUni was established to be a space to create synergies and promote the development of competences and empowerment of young people from both Europe and the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean.

The first edition (1-8 July 2013) was held at the International Cultural Centre in Hammamet, Tunisia, on the theme of "Democratic Citizenship". The second edition (2-9 June 2014) focused on "Youth Opportunities", a theme chosen by the Network of Universities, and in particular addressed the participation of young people in democratic processes (policy and decision making).

The Network of the Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship identified "Youth.org: actors for change!" as the joint theme for the third MedUni edition (1-8 June 2015).

This year's edition sought to promote youth work and participation in the Mediterranean region as well as reinforce the capacity-building of different "quadrilogue" actors in the field of youth at both regional and national levels.

Furthermore, the purpose of MedUni was to promote both Euro-Arab and Mediterranean youth cooperation and Global Youth Work and foster network development necessary for the creation of trans-Mediterranean communities of practice.

The various activities aimed at mainstreaming human rights, intercultural dialogue and democratic citizenship as essential dimensions of global education and the work with young people, in the framework of Euro-Arab and Mediterranean Youth Co-operation, as well as identifying good practices and shared experiences to be incorporated in concrete follow-up activities to ensure sustainable outcomes from MedUni.

MedUni Programme 2015

	Monday 1	Tuesday 2	Wednesday 3	Thursday 4	Friday 5	Saturday 6	Sunday 7	Monday 8
09:00 - 10:30	Partners' Activities							D
10:30 - 11:00	l R		Coffee-Break 11:30 Opening Partners' Activities					
11:00 - 13:00	R							
13:00		Lunch						
14:30 - 16:00	١		Partners' Activities					
16:00 - 16:30	'	Coffee-Break					- 11	
16:30 - 18:30	1	Partners' Activities Joint Session				Partners' Activities	16:30 Conclusions Closing of the MedUni	R E
19:30			Dinner					
21:00	Welcome Evening	Youth.org: actors for change!	Youth.org: actors for change!	Free Evening	Sharing Practices	Youth.org: actors for change!	Farewell Evening	

4. Joint Theme 2015: 'Actors for change.org'

MedUni is the youngest sister of the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship.

Within the framework of the 15th University on Youth and Development, the Network held its annual meeting on 25th September 2014 and agreed upon the joint theme for 2015.

"Youth.org: actors for change!" was the priority identified and a drafting group took the lead to present a first proposal of a concept note. The North-South Centre worked with the European Youth Forum and the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe in a proposal that was shared among partners. After collecting feedback, a final document was concluded in February 2015. This year's theme allowed youth organisations to reflect upon, assess their impact and look into what they can improve, do better or more of, in order truly to fulfil their role as actors for change. During the joint programme activities, participants had the chance to tackle questions such as:

- 'What is our common vision?'
- What kind of change do we want to achieve?'
- 'What is necessary to make change happen?'
- 'What are youth organisations currently doing and what can be done in order to achieve the common vision?'
- 'What other relevant partners should be there to co-operate with in order to maximize the impact apart from youth organisations?'

Apart from tackling some of these issues in most of the activities organised within the framework of the University, the joint moments also represented an opportunity to continue the reflection, in an enlarged setting (with various groups of participants involved) and to further discuss the topic with inter and intra-regional approaches. The evening programme tackled the following topic: "Youth.org: actors for change!" mainly through creative workshops and artistic moments.

In light of the recent events in Paris, Copenhagen, Tunis and Garissa and the growing concerns about radicalisation and violent extremism, the joint programme sought to tackle issues associated with the radicalisation of young people and their involvement in non-democratic and violent movements. Within this context, the joint programme acted as a stimulus for partners and participants to reflect on the role of youth organisations as actors for change. It also attempted to stir up the debate and answer questions such as:

• What contribution can they make to bring about change that is more inclusive, respects human rights and promotes democratic practices?

 How can youth organisations engage with marginalised and excluded young people to promote their inclusion, combat hate and extremist speech and advocate for their peaceful and active participation in democratic processes?

The quadrilogue session

A roundtable mobilising quadrilogue¹ actors was organised in the afternoon of the 5th June and was inspired by the main topics of partners' activities and the overarching theme of MedUni.

The session was composed of three main parts. First, the guests had a brief presentation on a tool, framework or proposal that enabled a more effective cooperation between the different actors of the quadrilogue in the field of youth participation.

The quadrilogue session gathered representatives of government national parliaments, local and regional authorities and civil society, sharing their knowledge and experience with participants from the North-South Centre's" Structured Participation in Democratic Processes" training course as well as participants in related activities organised by the Italian National Youth Forum and the Catalan National Youth Council.

The guests, both from Europe and Southern and Eastern Mediterranean, as well as representatives from authorities and civil society organisations engaged in an interactive discussion with participants in all related activities of the aforementioned partners. Therefore, it was also an opportunity for the participants to discuss the different aspects of the Structured Participation in Democratic Processes with the various actors of the Quadrilogue.

The session also focused on sharing good practices and experience on the role of youth organisations in processes of democratic consolidation (including influencing decision and policy-making).











¹ The quadrilogue is a working methodology promoted by the North-South Centre of the Council between the following actors: Governments, parliaments, local and regional authorities and civil society (namely youth organisations and trade unions).

After a brief presentation of their expertise on youth participation, the different quadrilogue representatives were invited to host a discussion table with the assistance of a rapporteur from the various training teams. For the second part of the quadilogue session, discussion tables were set up and each speaker 'hosted' one table so as to further explore their topic of interest.

The participants were able to switch tables of discussion and each table was facilitated by a rapporteur. In order to facilitate communication and exchange between speakers and participants, two tables were moderated in French whilst three other roundtables were conducted in English. At the end of the session, the rapporteurs provided a wrap-up of key points of discussion from each roundtable.



The quadrilogue session

Overall, the learning objectives of the Quadrilogue session consisted in:

- Developing understanding of the concept of quadrilogue
- Exploring different practices present by invited guests, representing different actors of the quadrilogue
- Reflecting on those practices and see their applicability for own work in SPDP
- Sharing experiences related to SPDP practice with quadrilogue actors
- Understanding possibilities of cooperation with quadrilogue actors in the future

The speakers for the 'Quadrilogue Session included:



- Ms. Aziza El Bekali

 Commission for dialogue with Civil Society Ministry of Relations between Parliament and Civil Society of the Kingdom of Morocco
- Mr. Tarak Mahdhaoui CSO representative from Tunisia, presenting the LAM ICHAML project
- Ms. Maria Paschou representative of the Working Group on Youth Participation of the EU-CoE youth partnership- sharing good practices of structured participation in youth policy making developed in the framework of EU-CoE youth partnership.
- Mr. Jo Deman Secretariat of the European Youth Forum- sharing their expertise in supporting the establishment of national youth councils.
- Mr. Niall Sheerin- North-South Centre of the Council of Europe- sharing about the work of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

5. Joint programme

This year's edition provided for the second time a Joint Programme offering both participants and trainers the opportunity to come together and jointly reflect upon the ways of contributing to the other participants' learning process through networking, experience sharing and approaching each other's culture and language. The programme was facilitated by a team of experienced trainers coming from the core partners of the MedUni and from the North-African region, mainly Tunisia and Morocco.

All of them had an educational background and multifaceted creative competences, which guaranteed a pedagogical approach based on global education for a fruitful intercultural learning experience.

The major role of the Joint Programme team was to facilitate the evening sessions which brought together the various groups of participants so as to build cultural, linguistic and creative bridges.

The several joint activities developed smoothly, and with great success, thanks to a brilliant team: Riccardo, Irene, Insaf and Malek.

Opening ceremony

The opening ceremony was held at the beginning of the week in the presence of core partners, guests and participants. After welcoming words from Mr. Niall Sheerin (Deputy Executive Director of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe) and Ms. Andreia Henriques (Programme Manager, NSC-CoE) and a presentation of the MedUni team, representatives from partners shared their thoughts, expectations and their commitment to this common learning process.



The partners were represented by Mr. William Massolin, Ms. Shaymaa Abdel Moneim, Mr. Mahmoud Hattab and Mr. Mohamed Jouili, representative of the National Youth Observatory of Tunisia.

On behalf of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, Mr. Niall Sheerin officially welcomed the guests and briefly introduced the 3rd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship and this year's theme: "Youth.org: actors for change!". Mr Sheerin also stressed the importance of sustainable cooperation within the region as a response to the real needs of young people as well as revitalizing democracy through youth.

The Head of Office of the Council of Europe Office in Tunisia, Mr. William Massolin emphasized the importance of the MedUni initiative in creating synergies between various youth organizations as well as opening new spaces for other partners and stakeholders. He also added that, considering the recent events at the beginning of 2015, it is essential to recognize the role of the youth in constructing a better future and building common projects.



Ms. Shaymaa Abdel Moneim thanked the hosts on behalf the League of Arab States and congratulated Tunisia for their engagement with youth organizations. Ms. Abdel Moneim put forward the efforts made by the Arab States in seeking more development and cooperation within the youth field in order to endorse and empower young people for a sustainable development. Ms. Abdel Moneim also emphasized the active and meaningful involvement of the League of Arab States in this year's MedUni edition.

As a representative of the Tunisian civil society, **Mr. Mahmoud Hattab** stressed the importance and support of the North-South Centre in opening doors to interregional exchange and cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean region. This paved the way for undertaking concrete steps towards the establishment of a civil society National Youth Council recognized by the Tunisian national authorities. In addition, he invited Tunisian organisations to take part in this promising Tunisian youth project and keep on strengthening cooperation through projects such as MedUni.

Mr. Mohamed Jouili, as a representative of the National Youth Observatory of Tunisia officially opened the 3rd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship and emphasized the importance of giving visibility to the partnership that makes MedUni happen. He underscored the high level of strength and seriousness MedUni has reached over the past three years and the role of communication in creating synergies and ensuring a participatory democracy. According to Mr. Jouilli, this year's MedUni theme permits bridging the gaps related to human rights and promotes the universalization of human rights despite the local specificities. Therefore, MedUni represents an opportunity to establish ties and catalyse positive change and respect for new ideas.

Ms. **Andreia Henriques**, Programme Manager of the Youth-cooperation programme of the NSC, briefly introduced the programme of the 3rd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship and presented the different partners, institutions and organization that make youth involvement happen. As the pedagogical responsible for the Joint programme within this year's MedUni edition, Riccardo Gulleta made a brief presentation of the Joint programmes and reminded the audience of the values of solidarity and diversity as encapsulated in the African concept of **'Ubuntu'** ('I am because we are').

Joint Session Youth.org: actors for change!

The Plenary Session on 'Youth.org: actors for change!', took place in the afternoon of 5th June 2015 and focused on sharing good practices and reflecting about the role of youth organisations as actors for change in a challenging context in the Mediterranean region. Guests from both Europe and Southern and Eastern Mediterranean as well as from authorities and civil society organisations engaged in an interactive discussion with participants from all the activities being held in the framework of the Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship.

The session represented the main space where all the participants of the University and institutional guests had the opportunity to reflect together on the joint theme and it offered the main platform for exchange

and building understanding of different approaches to the topic.

Joint session: Youth.org: actors for change

Joint session: Youth.org: actors for change

The session was centred around a panel of speakers on the theme: "Youth.org: Actors for Change!" The panel discussion was followed by a more interactive exchange between guests and participants, to facilitate exchange of views and conclusions. Young people and youth organisations must be considered as actors who can make valuable contributions to policy-making and to making a difference and instigating change in their communities, countries and at global level. Young people are not simply targets and beneficiaries of development; they are agents of change, in particular when they are actively involved in a youth organisation.

Youth organisations are key actors for change. They work close to the grassroots, they are organised and have the capacity to bring the realities, needs and input of young people to decision and policy making spheres. Through partnerships and networks they aim to represent the interests of young people and they work for better access to youth rights. Representative youth structures are able to voice the concerns and aspirations of young people and often share a belief in the need for change. Youth organisations are unique knowledge producers and educational providers.

Youth organisations also have a role in bringing closer the two shores of the Mediterranean. In times that radicalization and hate speech threaten democratic values and human rights, the youth movement has a unique role in assuring inclusion of marginalised and excluded youth and in promoting a non-violent and democratic culture of participation.

The first part of the Joint session included a panel of invited speakers composed of Mr. Rui Gomes, Ms. Imen Belhedi, Ms. Manel Ben Ashour and Ms. Gemma Aubarell. After the panel discussion, the speakers and participants had the occasion to hold a dialogue facilitated by the Joint Programme Team.

The Joint Session commenced with an introduction from the chairwoman of this session, Ms. Eliza Popper from the Advisory Council on Youth- Council of Europe. Ms. Popper gave a brief presentation of the Co-management system of the Council of Europe with different consensus-based decision making processes.



actors for change!

The first speaker, Mr. Rui Gomes from the Youth Department of the Council of Europe gave a brief account of the recently published Council of Europe's plan to combat extremism and radicalization leading to terrorism (2015-2017) and brought input on the role of youth organisations. He stressed the importance of combating prejudice and stigmatization of people through social inclusion. Youth work represents an alternative way of reaching the marginalized and preventing violent actions.

'You cannot force dialogue, but you can facilitate dialogue.'

Rui Gomes, Council of Europe

Furthermore, he underlined the need for member states to do more and better in terms of democratic citizenship through descriptors and indicators for citizenship. Last but not least, he underscored the link between change and the role of young people and the importance of promoting key initiatives such as

the 'No Hate Speech Movement'. The latter represents a concrete example of a campaign made by young people for young people claiming the internet as a space for democracy, participation and human rights as opposed to a channel to spread hate. Therefore, there is a need for offering youth alternative channels of engagement.

Ms. Imen Belhedi, from the National Youth Observatory of Tunisia presented a social inclusion good practice IDMEJ (inclusion), which is implemented by the World Bank in



the rural areas of Kasserine and Siliana. The IDMEJ project offered opportunities to young people from

the MENA regions. It was managed by the World Bank with Japanese funding in two regions with different phenomena of violence with the assistance of a group of young people in partnership with training centres and enterprises. The target group was composed of unemployed young people aged between 18-34 years old, half of them were women who had no previous training and were not actively involved in any kind of organization. As a conclusion, Ms. Belhedi emphasized the need for coaching and monitoring as well as a minimum of capacity-building.

Ms. Gemma Aubarell, from the Anna Lindh Foundation shared the activities that the ALF has been developing in the region in the field of youth capacity-building and empowerment. She equally emphasized that for the past years, the Anna Lindh Foundations has reframed the idea of intercultural dialogue. Ms. Aubarell also presented two programmes implemented by the ALF following the Arab Spring in 2011: the Youth Arab Voices implemented in cooperation with the British Council, seeking to facilitate youth participation through public spaces and Dawrak-Citizens for Dialogue, a capacity-building programme seeking to invest in multipliers. The ALF representative has also brought into the discussion a regional poll carried by the ALF seeking to measure frustration among young people. According to this poll, women are very often seen as drivers for change and young people are becoming more and more hesitant towards institutions. She also added that the MENA region and Europe are facing the same challenges. Therefore, indicators are never enough and a long-term vision is required in order to adapt and contextualize. Last but not least, Ms. Aubarell asked the essential question: 'How can we impact people who are not interested in dialogue?'

'How can we impact people who are not interested in dialogue?'

Gemma Aubarell, Anna Lindh Foundation

Mr. Manel Ben Achour, as a representative of Transparency International, gave a brief account on the anti-corruption summer school which took place in Tunis, 2014. The Mena School Integrity was comprised of four days of lectures and seminars on key corruption topics, a day of project/campaign planning workshop and a day of corruption simulation game. The project has been initiated by the School of Integrity: CFSMENA.com, a network of creative people who are combating corruption.

Ms. Manel added that the goal of the MENA Integrity School was to build a new generation of leaders who are aware of corruption issues at national, regional and global level. Moreover, it would represent a great opportunity to train young people and show them tools they can employ to combat corruption and enable them to make their own decisions. The high level of attendance showed that there is a growing interest among young people in anticorruption issues which increases the profile of Transparency International in the region.

Following the panel discussion, the participants from the various training groups had the chance to ask questions to the members of the panel. Since this year's MedUni topic is: 'Youth.org: actors for change',

the first question addressed was related to youth and media: 'Is the media making the society or is society making the media?'

'It is better to promote real life behavior and attitudes rather than online behavior and attitudes...'

Youth leader

The second question raised the issue of the lack of formal education programmes promoting the collaboration with government to push and change school curricula. This question was raised out of the idea that it is more worthwhile promoting real life behaviours and attitudes rather than online behaviours and attitudes.

Ms Jasna Zrnovic, the Serbian Deputy Ambassador in Tunisia put forward the importance of providing tools to schools, such as the 'World Heritage in young hands', provided by UNESCO and translated first into Serbian. She also underlined the importance of strengthening communication, starting with intergovernmental communication and ending with a more horizontal line of communication in terms of youth work and policies.

Another question dealt with the necessity of integrating Arab youth leaders in international organisations and undertaking needs assessments from inside the relevant countries before implementing projects.

There was another big question mark related to the fine line between the freedom of expression, the control of hate and how the media are promoting hate speeches. The question of prevention and tacking the roots of the situation rather than just talking the situation per se, was also in the centre of discussion.

Other items of concern were related to the need of regarding youth policies as a more cohesive societal issue and threat youth policies not as a separate issue but in a holistic manner.

All in all, the contributions from both the panel members and audience were of a great importance since they shared solutions for combating violent actions, societal ills and shared concerns among young leaders and workers. This interactive exercise allowed for exchange of experience and points of view among people stemming from various levels of the decision-making ladder.

More cohesive youth policies are required.'

Youth leader

At the end of the joint session, a wrap-up sequence summarized the outcomes of the session. These outcomes are considered of a particular relevance for the 2015 Lisbon Forum, organised by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe in the context of the South Programme "Towards Strengthened Democratic Governance in the Southern Mediterranean" (Lisbon, Portugal - autumn 2015).

Closing session

Mr. Niall Sheerin welcomed the guests and participants to the last joint moment of the 3rd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship on June 7th in the afternoon. This very last session comprised two main moments.

First, the pedagogical coordinator for the Joint Programme team, Ricardo, presented the various activities that were carried out during the week by the FNJ, ONJ, CNJC and the SPDP pedagogical teams. Miguel Silva offered a brief account of the outcomes of



the consultative meeting on Youth & Global Citizenship Training for Trainers for Southern Mediterranean educators which took place on June 6-7th.

Afterwards, the outcomes of the partners' activities were briefly presented.

On behalf of the Italian Youth Forum, Sara Massini shortly reported on the stakeholders' meeting stressing the fact that this year new stakeholders joined in. She added that there was a need to focus on



capacity-building and each stakeholder came up with its own plan. From a youth perspective, there was a need to start cooperating in the field of capacity-building, merge the activities in a collective manner so as to trigger more effect and impact.

As for the National Youth Observatory of Tunisia, Heiddy expressed his gratitude to take part in the 3rd Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship and underlined the need for young people to take action and bring change within their communities.

Mr. Heiddy also presented the outcomes of the ONJ workshops and stressed the high challenges the Tunisian young diaspora have to face regarding the 'sadness of their own identity.' He added that these young people look for more opportunities to connect with their own country, their own language and culture and feel nearer home. They also look for resources to develop Tunisia from within or from abroad. Furthermore, Mr. Heiddy underlined the need for the media to portray Tunisian diaspora in a more positive manner.

The SPDP participants presented various concepts they explored during the 'Structured Participation in Democratic Processes' training in a very creative way. For instance, buzzwords such as SPDP, democracy, participation, SPDP channels were taken to another dimension and became imaginary motives appealing to a young audience so as to render this learning process more accessible and memorable.

In a second time, the session concluded with a panel composed of Mr. Jouilli, Mr. Sheerin, Ms. Betrian Fatjo and Ms. Corbo.

As a representative of the National Youth Observatory, **Mr. Mohamed Jouilli** underscored the improvement each year MedUni has been witnessing for the past 4 years. For instance, he put forward that this year's MedUni enhanced its visibility through extensive media coverage in Tunisia and through

social media. Mr. Jouilli called upon establishing continuous ties in order to enable MedUni to become a real institution with the assistance of young people. Finally, he showed enthusiasm for reinforcing the partnership with the North-South Centre.

On behalf of the North-South Centre, Mr. Niall Sheerin underlined the role of important partners such as the League of Arab States. Mr. Sheerin introduced the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe as an enlarged partial agreement aiming at empowering young people and women. In order to promote youth participation and youth empowerment, the NSC organizes annually events such as the Mediterranean



University on Youth Global Citizenship, in Hammamet or the Network of Universities on Youth and Global Citizenship, in Mollina.

As a representative of the Italian Youth Forum, **Mr. Giovanni Corbo** equally put forward the role of the stakeholders in organizing MedUni as well as the important role of youth organizations. Furthermore, he invited the participants to reflect upon with new ideas for the following Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship and the importance of learning from our past mistakes.

On behalf of the National Youth Council of Catalonia, **Ms. Julia Betrian Fatjo** thanked the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe and the National Youth Observatory of Tunisia for having organized this year's MedUni edition and she equally expressed her gratitude for the second participation of the League of Arab States. Ms. Betrian Fatjo added that the training session organized by the League of Arab States was composed of 22 participants from various Arab states, which proposed a number of recommendations which the LAS is going to submit to the relevant partners.

Furthermore, Ms. **Betrian Fatjo** stressed that young people represent the most important actors in the process of MedUni. She also added that MedUni represents a great space to share the same concerns with the people who are on the other side of the Mediterranean. She concluded her narrative with a quote from her grandmother: "They can steal a lot from you but they can't take away your experience".

6. Partners' activities and outcomes

2nd Training Course on Structured Participation in Democratic Processes

North-South Centre of the Council of Europe-June 2nd-7th

A one-week training programme was organised by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe and focused on developing competencies of youth workers/activists involved in civil society organisations in Europe and Southern and Eastern Mediterranean.

The course was addressed to young people from Europe (CoE member states) and Southern and Eastern Mediterranean, under the age of 30, who are actively involved in a youth organisation, project or initiative (whether local, national, regional or international) that aims at promoting the participation of young people in democratic governance, decision and policy making processes.

The overall objective of the activity was "to support empowerment of civil society and more particularly of the youth organisations with the purpose of making them fully fledged actors of governance". The activity tackled issues such as the concepts and practices of global democratic citizenship, the role of youth organisations in decision-making and design, implementation and evaluation of policies, the quadrilogue, tools and mechanisms for an effective participation of youth in democratic life and sharing of good practices on development of youth structures and Structured Participation in Europe and Southern and Eastern Mediterranean region.

This training course was facilitated by a pedagogical team composed of:

- Sérgio Xavier, pedagogical coordinator, North-South Centre
- o Ela Jakubek, trainer Pool of Trainers and Facilitators of the European Youth Forum
- o Ismail Ilsouk, trainer from Morocco
- o Hajer Tlijani, National Committee Coordinator, World Youth Alliance

Consultative Meeting - Training for Trainers on Global Education North-South Centre of the Council of Europe – June 6th-7th

In the context of the extension of the North-South Centre Global Education (GE) programme activities in Morocco and Tunisia, and upon the growing demand from Moroccan and Tunisian partners and practitioners to offer training for trainers (TfT) in the field of GE, the NSC organised a consultative meeting in the framework of MedUni.

This meeting gathered partners and experts from the region to reflect about the content and structure of the new training as well as the necessary adaptation of the Arabic version of the Global Education guidelines. This new TfT shall complement the NSC GE strategy developed in the region so far through the creation of the MedUni (2012), the translation of the Global Education Guidelines in Arabic (2014), the GE e-learning scheme and the extension of the Global Education Week (GEW) network to Morocco and Tunisia (which took place following the GE focus group meeting held in the MedUni in 2014).

Workshop on Human Rights from a Youth Perspective

League of Arab States (Population Policies, Expatriates and Migration Department – PPEMD-LAS) and North-South Centre of the Council of Europe – June 2^{nd} - 5^{th}

It is important to give a channel for youth organisations who work on the ground to give their input on "Translating human rights principles into practices", and to engage them more in the process of decision making, besides giving them the opportunity to exchange experiences and best practices with youth organisations from European countries that were able to achieve these goals.

The participants were young people active in youth organisations in CoE member states and Southern Mediterranean countries (Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco and Tunisia).

The main goal of this activity was to promote youth engagement from South Mediterranean countries in the democratisation process, to be a part of policy making process. The objectives of this workshop consisted in opening a platform for youth organisations to share their views and experience from working on the ground and to represent young people on how they want to achieve human rights goals; giving youth organisations from South Mediterranean countries the chance to exchange experience with youth organisations from European countries and examples on how they achieved some rights whether political, civil, social and economic; translating human rights principles to practices by youth organisations through recommendations drafted by them; raising the recommendations issued by youth to governments of South Mediterranean Countries by PPEMD-LAS.

According to the League of Arab states, the workshop achieved its goals not only in drafting recommendations that reflected the expectations of youth working in civil society and the policies they aim for, but also in making an impact regarding human rights concepts, it has also helped to shed light on some of the needs of youth organization such as capacity building to include different levels that tackle NGOs competencies on different levels the conceptual and technical level and the individual level.

In addition to that, strategic planning, the necessity to have clear and consistent agenda, and also the importance of exploring more practices will help them in achieving their objectives.

Closing meeting and joint assessment of the project "Structured Participation in Democratic Processes"

CNJC - National Youth Council of Catalonia (co-ordinator of the activity) – June 4th-8th

This meeting was a moment of evaluation and follow up for different youth organisations from the Mediterranean area that have been working on this multi-phased project led by the CNJC. Partner organisations are expected to meet at the 3rdMediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship for the closing of the project, to assess the key achieved results and plan future follow up activities. This activity was a unique opportunity to share the results of the 'Structured Participation in Democratic Processes' project with key stakeholders involved in youth Euro-Mediterranean co-operation processes in the framework of the MedUni, and therefore it allowed to feed into the 2015-16 Euro-Med co-operation cycle. The meeting had the support of two facilitators that assisted the group in assessing and collecting the results of their projects and it was also a learning peer-to-peer space on the next steps of this process.

Meeting of stakeholders and partners

- Euro-Arab and Euro-Mediterranean Youth Co-operation – June 6th

This meeting was attended by partners of joint events where the social and political developments in the region were analysed and needs of youth and civil society organisations were gathered (in 2012: Malta Seminar, Rome meeting, Tunis Conference) as well as co-operation partners of other activities related to Euro Arab and Mediterranean youth co-operation. Representatives of the following stakeholders and partners attended the meeting: North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, Youth Department of the Council of Europe, European Youth Forum, United Nations Population Fund, League of Arab States, Italian National Youth Forum, and Advisory Council of the Council of Europe, Maltese Youth Agency and the British Council. National authorities from Southern Mediterranean countries, related with the youth field, will also be invited to attend (e.g. National Youth Observatory of Tunisia).

In this meeting, stakeholders were invited to go through needs assessment and possible synergies, based on the inputs from national authorities and on sharing the work each stakeholder is developing in the region. Additionally, stakeholders were invited to assess also the implementation of the resulting recommendations (from previous events mentioned above) concerning priorities for the empowering of young people in the Southern Mediterranean (such as a regional youth research network, a Euro-Arab Youth Platform, a Euro-Arab Youth Centre for Training and Development and a Mediterranean University.

Meeting of the Tunisian Diaspora

National Youth Observatory of Tunisia, African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe and the Office of Tunisians Abroad - Tunisia –June 1^{st} - 4^{th}

This meeting was attended by the African Diaspora Youth Network in Europe, students of "Ecole Supérieure Privée d'Ingénierie et de Technologie" (ESPRIT) as well as Tunisian youth residing within the country and abroad. This workshop training aimed to highlight the strategies of the Observatory and the Organisation for Migration. More specifically, the objectives of this meeting consisted in reinforcing the existent communication channels between youth in Tunisia, the diaspora and also youth organisations representing them. The event also aimed at assessing youth concerns on key social issues, promoting the equal participation of men and women residing in Tunisia and abroad in development projects and activities and finally to increase the visibility of the project.

The National Youth Observatory of Tunisia and the Office of Tunisians Abroad took this chance to present their activities and services provided for the benefit of young Tunisian residing in Tunisia and abroad.

Meeting "Empowering Networking and Youth Partnerships in the Euro-Arab Mediterranean Process"

FNG - Italian National Youth Forum - June 3rd-8th

This capacity building event, organized by the Italian Youth Forum, gathered 18 youth leaders and trainers from European, Arab and Mediterranean countries, with the aim of introducing a new approach to the development of an active Euro-Arab Mediterranean network of youth organizations. The meeting intended to give a new impetus to the cooperation in the Euro-Arab and Mediterranean region by empowering partnerships and build an effective and stable network of youth organizations involved in the Euro-Arab and Mediterranean process.

The participants were given a space for learning and to familiarize with the Euro-Arab Mediterranean cooperation process where they could analyse and evaluate the last years of cooperation in the Euro-Arab and Mediterranean region. The meeting aimed to involve and train youth workers and NFE youth trainers in the Euro-Arab Mediterranean cooperation process in order to give them the ability to multiply the outcomes and results of the previous years of cooperation and move forward the process to different levels. The importance of being a multiplier was highlighted as being a leverage for real social change in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

7. Suggested readings

- 1. For more information about UYD: http://www.uyd.me/
- 2. For more information about 1st edition: http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/nscentre/Youth/2013_MedUniv_presentation.pdf
- 3. Population and Development Report; The Millennium Development Goals in the Arab Region 2007: A Youth Lens, available at: http://www.escwa.un.org/information/publications/edit/upload/ead-07-3-e.pdf
- 4. For more information on the World Forum for Democracy: http://www.coe.int/en/web/world-forum-democracy
- 5. For more information on previous co-operation activities:

http://www.euromedp.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/08/Draft_Executive_summary_report_Tunis_conf.pdf

http://pjp-eu.coe.int/documents/1017981/3084942/Executive Summary final.pdf/d856baf5-a360-4ad1-b0bc-fd459413252c

8. Appendix

Programme of the Session-June 5th

16h30 - "Youth.org: actors for Change!"

Introduction by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe

Young people and youth organisations must be considered as actors who can make valuable contributions to policy-making and to making a difference and instigating change in their communities, their countries and at global level. Young people are not simply targets and beneficiaries of development; they are agents of change, in particular when they are actively involved in a youth organisation.

Youth organisations are key actors for change. They work close to the grassroots, they are organised and have the capacity to bring the realities, needs and input of young people to decision and policy making spheres. Through partnerships and networks they aim to represent the interests of young people and they work for better access to youth rights. Representative youth structures are able to voice the concerns and aspirations of young people and often share a belief in the need for change. Youth organisations are unique knowledge producers and educational providers.

Youth organisations also have a role in bringing closer the two shores of the Mediterranean. In times that radicalization and hate speech threathen democratic values and human rights, the youth movement has a unique role in assuring inclusion of marginalised and excluded youth and in promoting a non-violent and democratic culture of participation.

Panel "Youth.org: actors for change!"

The objectives of this session are:

- to reflect about the main needs and challenges of young people in the Mediterranean region (in light of recent events and growing radicalization, instrumentalisation and extremism of speech and actions);
- to identify a common vision, the kind of change to be achieved and what is necessary to make such change happen;
- to reflect on the role of youth organisations in promoting that change and how they can co-operate with other actors to maximize the impact?
- to share good practices of what are youth organisations doing currently to achieve change in the region (together with other partners and promoting youth participation).

Guests:

Rui Gomes - Education and Training Division/ Youth Department of the CoE- sharing his expertise on CoE Plan to combat extremism and radicalisation leading to terrorism (2015-2017) and the role of youth organisations

- Mr. Manel Ben Ashour Iwatch Transparency International sharing the work of the Regional Youth anti-corruption debating project conducted in 2014/ 2015 and the TI anticorruption summer school
- Gemma Aubarell- Anna Lindt Foundation- sharing the activities that the ALF has been developing in the region in the field of youth capacity-building and
- Ms. Imen BELHEDI, from the National Youth Observatory of Tunisia presented a social inclusion good practice IDMEJ, which is implemented by the World Bank in the rural areas of Kasserine et Siliana.

18h00 - Open Debate

Participants will have the opportunity to make some comments and address questions to speakers. There will be an open debate that will allow more interaction with guests.

19h30 – Closing remarks by moderator 19h45 – Coffee-break

Briefing Meeting

Speakers are invited for a meeting on June 5th at 13:00 in the MedUni venue.

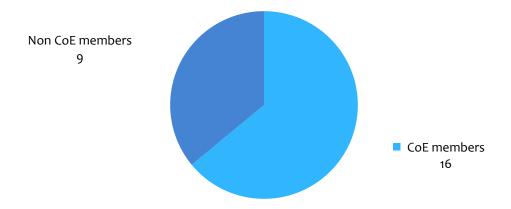
ANNEX 1 - General statistics

Country representation

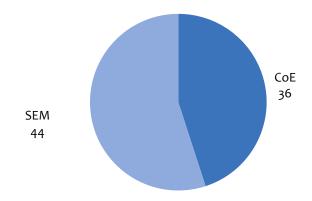
Europe (16): Bosnia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, German, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia and Spain

SEM (9): Algeria, Egypt, Tunisia, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine and Syria.

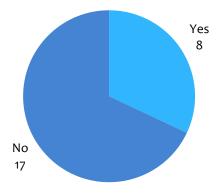
Country distribution



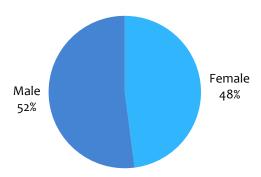
Participant distribution



Membership of North-SouthCentre

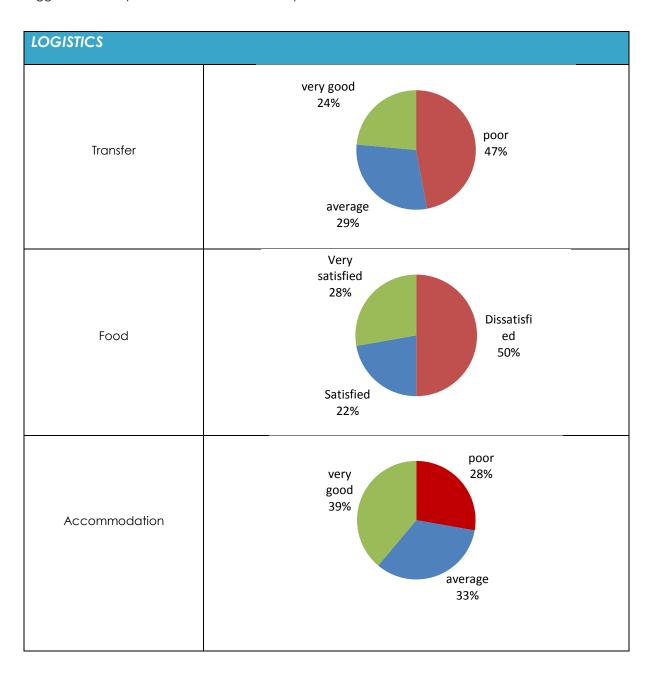


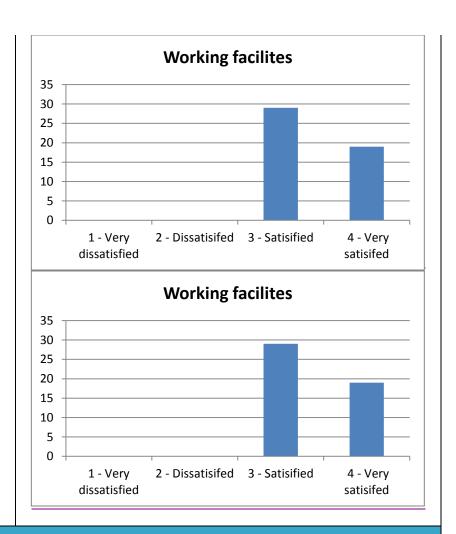
Gender balance



ANNEX 2 - EVALUATION OF THE WORKSHOP

At the end of the workshop, participants were asked to complete a workshop evaluation form. They were asked to evaluate the following elements pertaining to the workshop: the logistics, course objectives, programmed elements, general impressions, methodology, personal contribution, learning achievements, facilitators, joint programme activities and finally usefulness of the workshop for their work. Participants were also invited to indicate the parts of the workshop they found most and least interesting and to make suggestions for improvement of future workshops. The results of the evaluation are summarized below.

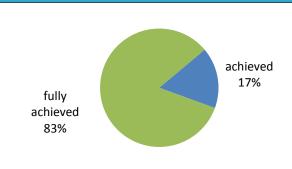


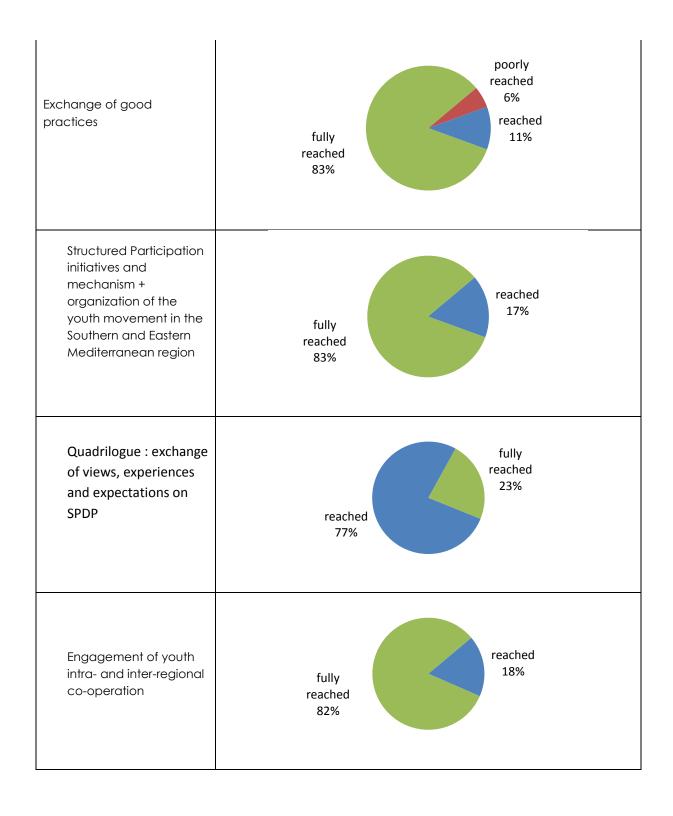


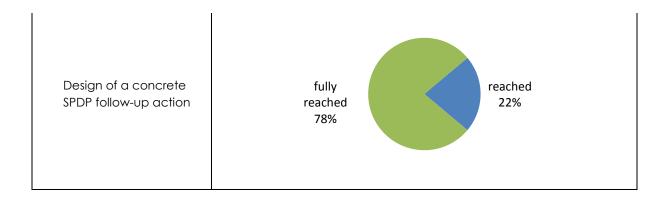
Working facilities

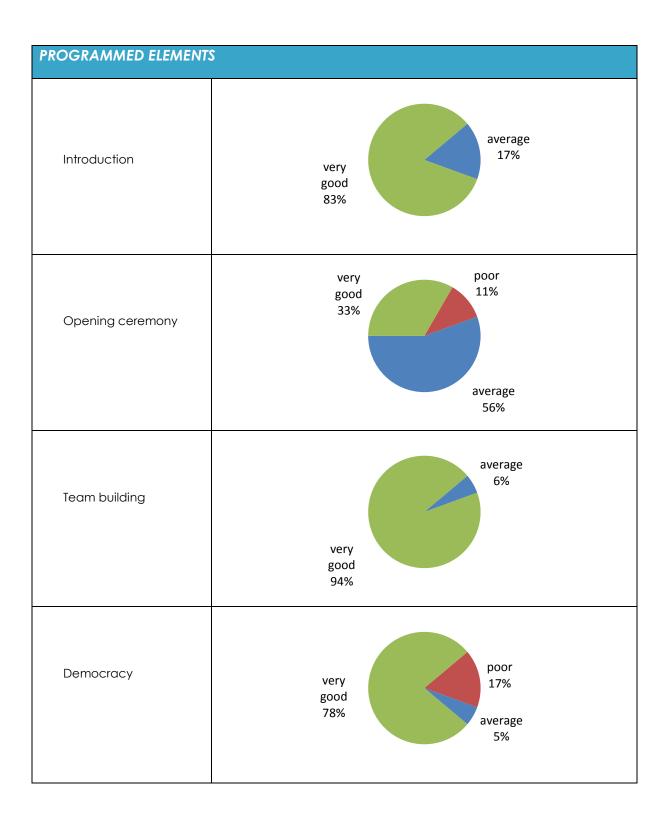
COURSE OBJECTIVES

Participation and representation in decision/policy-making + building of understanding

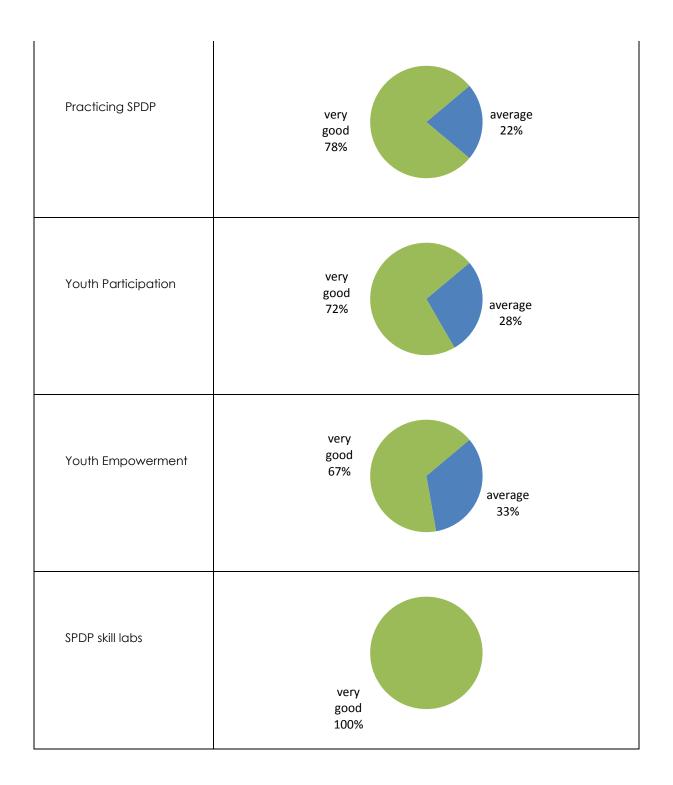


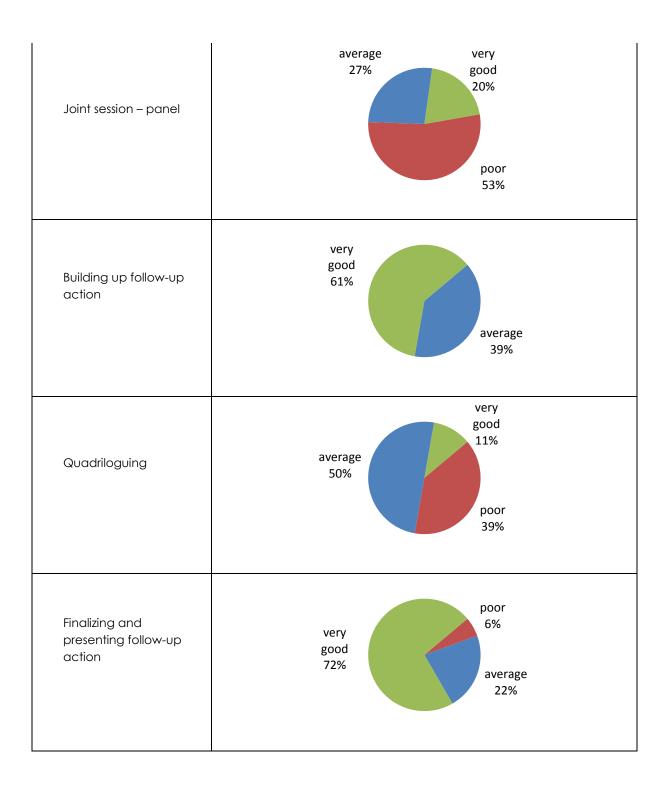


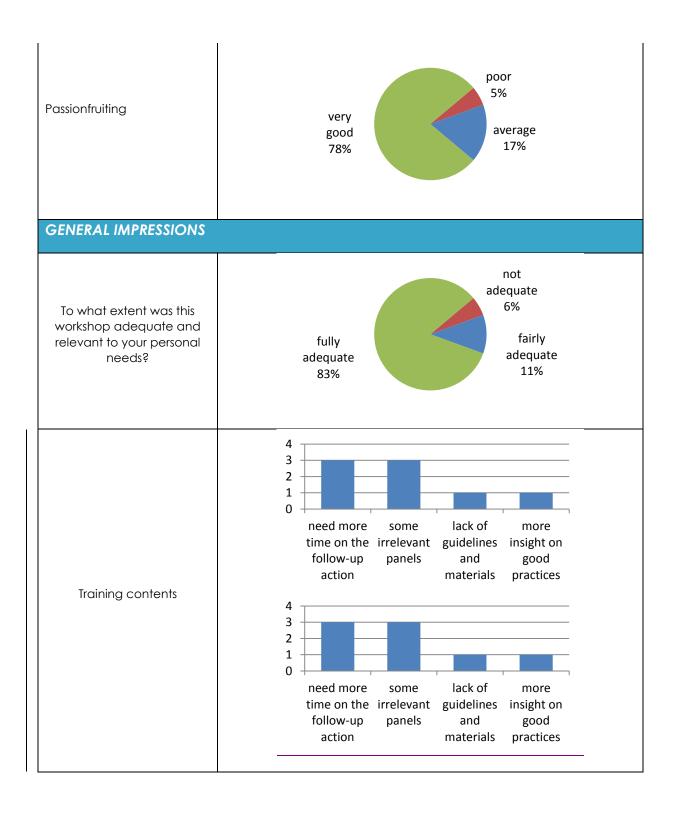


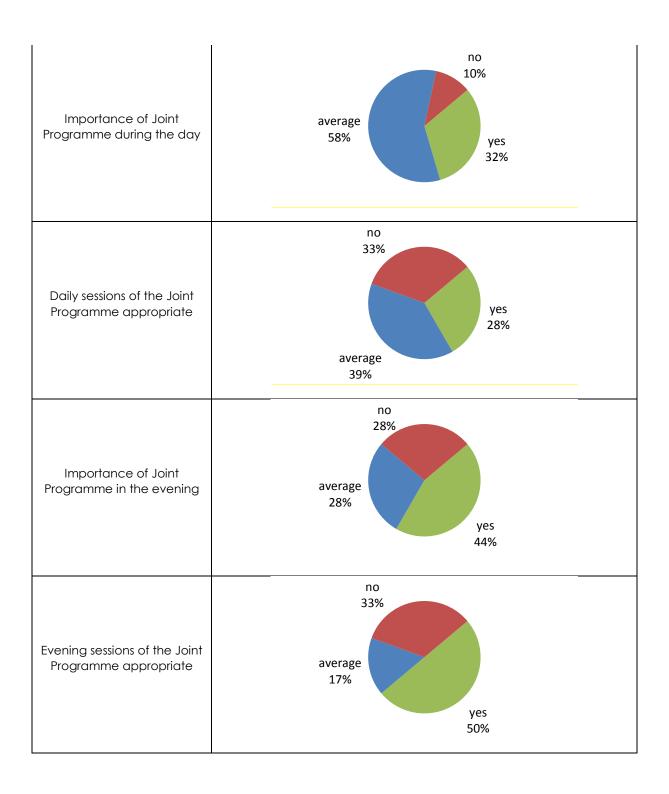


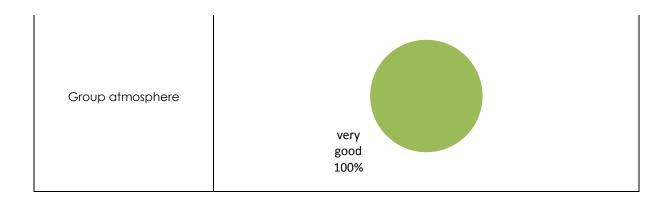


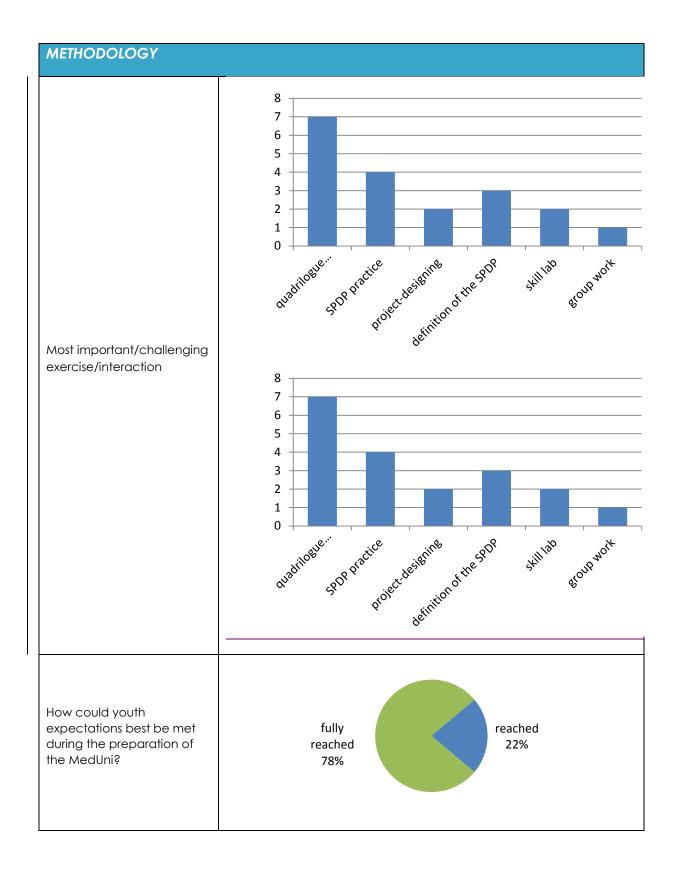


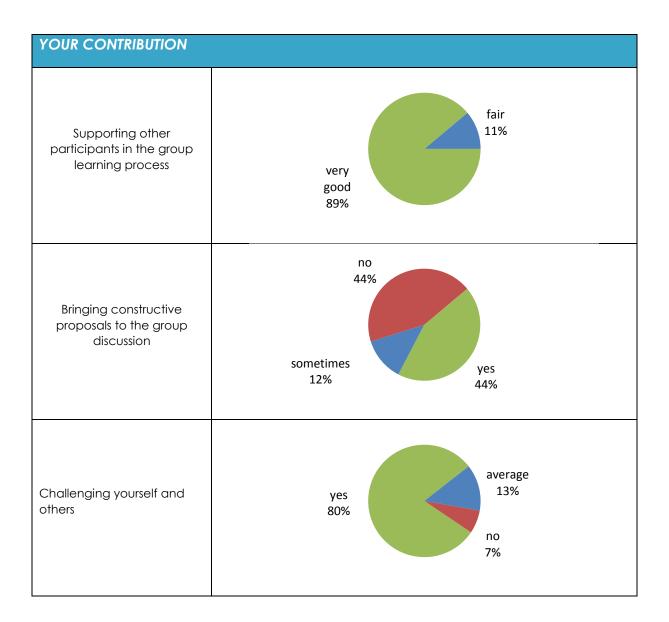


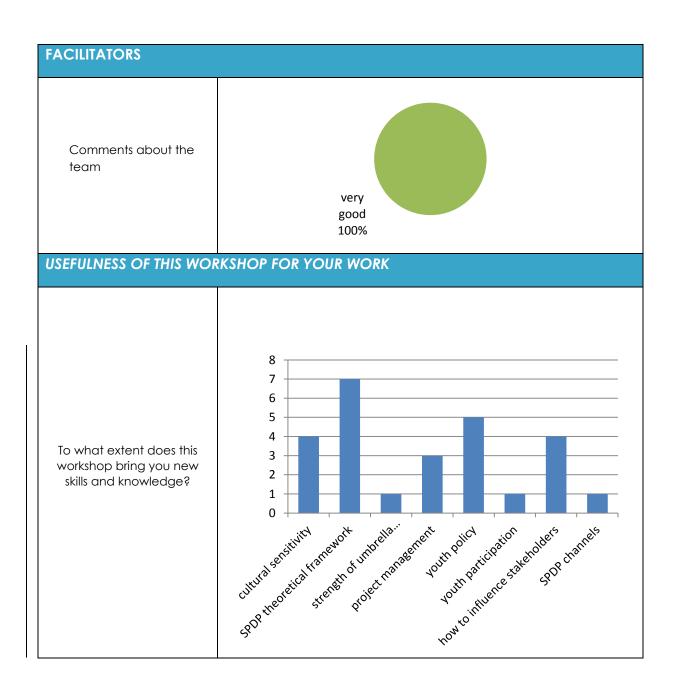


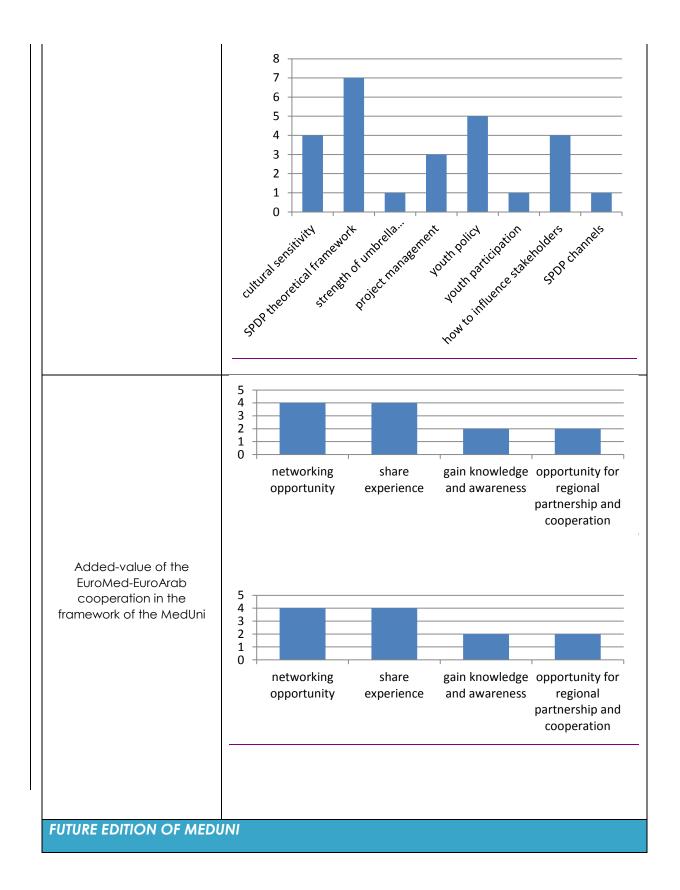


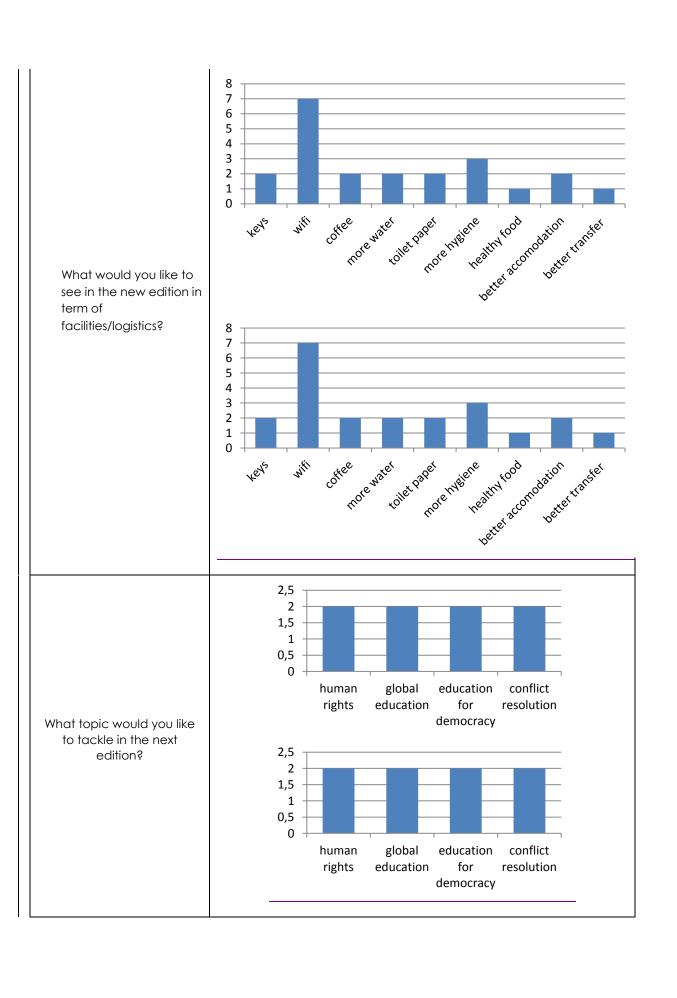












UGGESTIONS					
Further suggestions	One day or half-day free Information on toilet necessities to bring Keep passionfruiting, SPDP More energizers More in-depths discussions More time for the follow-up actions				

Technical information

Authors

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Revision

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