



Active participation as a tool for social inclusion: The current challenges of refugee youth.

Report of the study session held by
Voices of Young Refugees in Europe
in co-operation with
the European Youth Centre
of the Council of Europe

European Youth Centre Strasbourg
21-28 June 2009



This report gives an account of various aspects of the study session. It has been produced by and is the responsibility of the educational team of the study session. It does not represent the official point of view of the Council of Europe.

DJS/S (2009) 12

Report of the study session held by Voices of Young Refugees in Europe
in co-operation with the
European Youth Centre of the Council of Europe

European Youth Centre Strasbourg
21-28 June 2009



Acknowledgements

VYRE would like to thank all those members that contributed their love, inspiration and dedication to the purpose. Many thanks go to all members who contributed with their notes and minutes taking during the session and drafting this report.

Voices of Young Refugees in Europe
vyre.net@gmail.com

Table of Contents

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	5
INTRODUCTION.....	6
<i>The aims and objectives of the study session</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>The profile of participants</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>The programme flow with the main contents/issues discussed</i>	<i>7</i>
PROGRAMME – INPUTS AND DISCUSSIONS	16
<i>The main issues raised.....</i>	<i>16</i>
MAIN OUTCOMES OF THE STUDY SESSION.....	17
<i>Recommendations or statements on issues that require particular attention</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Main results for VYRE</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>Main learning points for participants</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Description of projects developed during the session</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Possible suggestions or recommendations for the Council of Europe.....</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>(including for the work of the Directorate of Youth and Sport)</i>	<i>19</i>
FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES	20
FINAL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	20
APPENDICES	21
Annex 1. Final Programme:.....	22
Annex 2. List of participants and countries	23
Annex 3. List of references used	24

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This was the first study session of the VYRE network. VYRE was launched in February 2008 during an international meeting co-funded by EYF and UNHCR, in Budapest entitled **“Raising the voices of young refugees: A step forward to organise ourselves”**. This meeting was the follow-up to the training seminar organised by the Youth Directorate and UNHCR during the “All different-All equal” campaign in December 2006, entitled **“Being a Young Refugee in Europe Today”**.

Those two meetings resulted with the conclusion that refugee youth leaders and refugee workers need to develop their skills in order to improve and reinforce their participation to society.

VYRE as a network is crucial for young refugees in Europe in order to share experiences and raise common concerns. Many young people with refugee background in Europe face discrimination and sometimes exclusion when it comes to possibilities for participation in the society: sometimes met with ignorance, sometimes prejudices, racism, patronizing attitudes. With a strong network, in which members can acquire new skills and strengthen their capacities, we can contribute to a Europe with greater knowledge of the reasons for being a refugee and with greater capacity for building social cohesion with intercultural learning as a base.

The study session was therefore of crucial importance to the consolidation, continuation and sustainability of the network.

Namely, as the network consists of young refugees and exiles and relevant organisations, the issues addressed during the session will empower refugee youth active participation in their local communities, thus enhancing their social inclusion.

The study session served as space for young refugees – that are usually “invisible”- to interact and become acquainted with tools, such Intercultural Learning (ICL).

INTRODUCTION

The aims and objectives of the study session

The fundamental aim of the VYRE network is “to positively change the lives of young refugees/exiles through unifying our voices in order to influence policy change at national and European level and to realize our equal human rights and dignity”.

The aim and objectives of the study session were formulated somewhat different in the study session application but still same in terms of substance. Prior to the study session the preparatory team held several meetings using Skype and a meeting with DYS Educational Advisor at the EYCS where the final version of the programme was drafted, including final formulation of aim and objectives as stated below.

In line with the aim of VYRE, the **aim** of the study session was: *to empower refugee youth to actively participate in their local communities, and thus enhance their social inclusion.*

The **objectives** of the study session were:

- To discuss and define the following concepts: social inclusion, active participation, ICL;
- To identify the challenges that young refugees and exiles face today in Europe, in terms of their active participation in their local realities;
- To assess the needs for further empowerment and to develop our skills/competencies accordingly.
- To share experiences and explore already existing practices of refugee youth inclusion;
- To assist participants in developing their individual action plans and to use the acquired skills and tools to strengthen the voices of young refugees.

During the preparatory meeting basic approaches were agreed upon and selection of participants took place.

The profile of participants

Participants were young refugees as well as young refugee workers aged from 18-35. They were residents of the Council of Europe member states, involved/interested in displacement related issues.

All of them are motivated and ready to act as multipliers towards their peers after the meeting and to invest themselves in the long term establishment of a network of young refugees. Participation was open to present and future members interested in our work as well as our common goals. Finally, participants should have been able to communicate in English and French as these were the working languages of the session. The selection of the participants took into consideration gender, age and geographical balance.

The programme flow with the main contents/issues discussed

21 June 2009

Arrival of participants and welcome evening:

As a first introduction to participants and the prep team, the welcome evening served the purpose of an introduction to/of the group as well as “breaking the ice”. The study session was the first time that some of VYRE members met each other, therefore this welcome evening was important in introducing participants to each other in an informal manner and creating a group feeling.

These activities broke the ice for many people and created the atmosphere of friendship that carried out throughout the week. It also created a good bridge between “old” and “new” members of the network. Participants enjoyed the welcome evening as they learnt more about each other in a playful way.



22 June 2009

Introduction

The study session programme started with the introduction- of the participants, of their backgrounds, brief sharing of the participants' life stories, reasons that brought together many young people from different countries of the world. Following this the participants had the opportunity to get better acquainted with VYRE: the reasons serving its beginning, how we became VYRE, the aims and objectives prioritized by the initiative, its identity as recognized by the members, on which stage of development the network was at the moment.

As an important part of the introduction, the Directorate of Youth and Sport and the Directorate of Social Cohesion as well as the European Youth Foundation were presented to the participants.

Afternoon session: Trust building

Following the morning part of the first day mainly aimed at participants' introduction and awareness rising on the network, its aims and objectives, the afternoon part was aimed at trust building/establishment among the participants, which represented an imitation of a blind trust - a situation that a refugee appears in almost any country context.

The exercise was an attempt for the participants to realize what trust was, what supported it or conversely, prevented from. Through common discussions the problem of trust/mistrust and consequently, inclusion into any society was immediately linked with a social context of the host country/community as well as personal characters, disappointments and achievements experienced. The exercise linked the participants to real life, it showed once again that ones that go forward often forget about the ones left behind, it showed that people can be "trapped" at one place and be forced by situation to adopt having no other choice. It came up as one of the conclusions from the exercise that not all the people are equal in exercising rights. It was a good lesson on how people feel in different situations.

The conclusion in the end of the discussion after the exercise was that social cohesion means dignity of each and every person, their ability and contribution to the society.

The discussion was followed by an exercise which was aimed at differentiating and realization of the main obstacles that prevent refugees, mainly young refugees from enjoying the equal rights each person has.

The evaluation of the exercise was evidence that development and equal opportunities and rights ensuring is an overall objective and can be achieved through joint efforts of all society units.

23 June 2009

Morning session: Challenges/realities and lecturer on integration

The participants were challenged to think individually on the challenges that refugee youth face world wide.

The participants were to think and answer the question: What challenges does refugee youth face in your local community?

Discussing the answers that came up from the exercise the participants came to conclusions that surprisingly young refugees struggle with many similar challenges in different corners of the world: misunderstanding, fear of difference, prejudice, problems with adaptation, low self-esteem, integration, access to basic social rights, access to formal/non formal education, employment, mistrust...



The discussion also showed that young refugees also lack knowledge about young refugees' rights, possibilities and opportunities provided by local communities.

One crucial segment of the day was an expert's input. Toulouse University Professor Zohra Guerraoui, expert on integration presented to the group the concept of "Intercultural Psychology". Prof. Guerraoui spoke about feelings of belonging, groups that we belong to, culture and values. Prof. Guerraoui explained more in depth aspects of integration. According to the Professor, there are 6 points in 2 types of transformation:

First – Integration functioning: inclusion - assimilation - integration

Second – Exclusion functioning: separation/segregation - marginalization - exclusion

After the presentation the participants had the chance to ask questions. We concluded that integration is not an easy process but a necessary one where all groups have to make efforts to find common ground and to live peacefully side by side.

As some of the conclusions the following appeared: changes are natural and we should harmonize within cultures, give values to others culture and respect it included individual, be aware of the other parties in a friendly manner; misunderstanding will increase gaps between groups, sometimes we need more time to understand as things are not always straight forward.

Afternoon session: What is and how does youth participation work?

In the afternoon the programme continued in the Austrian room, where participants had the chance to reflect on refugee participation in four corners of the room. The different aspects that participants could reflect over were: organization/work, community, private lives and real life/practice.

After reading each others reflections an interesting one-hour long discussion developed about all associations we had regarding each sphere. Some questions that came up were: What is participation for us in daily practice? How do youth participate in our realities?

Participants also agreed that no participation is also a form of participation, a way to send a message. Someone in the group concluded that our main responsibility in daily work should be promotion of participation among young refugees.



The participants shared their perception and understanding of rights, means, space and opportunities based on their experience in the host community. A common conclusion was that the elements enhancing youth participation were an opportunity of having a choice, expression of opinions, view points and an ability to hear, to learn and also be heard and have an opportunity to share experiences.

24 June 2009

Morning session: How do I really participate? Ladder of participation and conclusions on youth participation:

In the morning the participants were acquainted with the ladder of participation:

- young people are manipulated
- young people used as decoration
- young people tokenized
- young people are assigned and informed
- young people are consulted and informed
- young people lead and initiate
- young people share decision making

Participants positioned themselves on the step of the ladder that corresponded to their everyday practice and reality on local level with youth participation. Everyone had the opportunity to speak about their choice of step on the ladder and describe their local reality. A discussion followed on good/bad practice.

Next the participants were divided into smaller groups to discuss how VYRE can contribute to youth participation? Actually, the study session participants were given a set time period in groups to prepare their own small-scale action plans (locally feasible) on how to use the capacities of VYRE which were presented in the form of collages and posters to ensure stable empowerment of refugee youth. More specifically it was suggested to develop a mechanism for information and experience sharing, advocating on law issues, funding sources identification, as well as to reach a higher decision making bodies both on local and international levels as observers.

Some of the suggestions from this exercise were: empowerment of youth, sharing experience, good and bad practice exchange, fundraising, giving opportunities to individual young refugees to be included (not only NGO-backed), advocate on law, and use personal testimonies as an effective tool for awareness raising.

Afternoon session: UNHCR exhibition, reimbursement and free afternoon:

The participants had the pleasure to visit an exhibition organized by UNHCR named '*Real people, Real Needs*' in the Council of Europe building. It was a photo exhibition on the situation of refugees in the world today.

A group of participants had the opportunity to be present at a meeting of the *PACE Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population* (upon invitation of the Committee's Chairperson) to practice some real participation, but their expectations

were not met. More attention to refugee youth can always be constructive and to the benefit of our societies.

The group did feel that had the chance to actively participate at the session – which is a form of participation too- at least present the Network they are members of, the purpose for which it was created... However, the Committee pledged to be in contact with VYRE and acknowledge cooperation.

Ironically the whole day in the CoE building was under the slogan *Real People-Real Needs*. The group of real young refugees with real and true life stories and needs could not have been disappointed more. But this was a good lesson to prove that participation is not easy task, and that refugee youth know the hard way.

The evening continued with a dinner in town.



25 June 2009

Youth work, networking and social inclusion (lecturer)

The morning started with a continuation of presentation of the suggestions in forms of posters made earlier on VYRE contribution to refugee youth participation enhancement on local and international levels.

An overall goal both for the network development and refugee youth empowerment was to create ground for cooperation with state, non-governmental and other bodies acting in the field starting from the local level, later enlarging the circle of involvement, also support any youth initiatives aimed at social inclusion through assisting in project developments and implementation, use the capacities already existing.

It was commonly accepted that the VYRE should be promoted strongly at local levels, and that VYRE members should make an effort to reach those young refugees still not visible or heard. One important conclusion was that VYRE should take in consideration the role of media and how it can be used.

In order to create the mentioned basis for cooperation with stakeholders VYRE members as well as the study session participants outlines the importance of the network visibility: creation of the VYRE web-page, periodical newsletters, leaflets and brochures and other promotional materials development, printing and distribution.

The participants realized that it's hard sometimes to find a common goal among all our different realities, but that is part of diversity which we can use as a value for learning from each other.

What VYRE can do depends of capacity of its members!

Therefore, the study session participants were assigned to develop specific action plans on their particular role in the local level contributing to the network development using local and personal capacities.

After the posters/collages presentations and discussions a guest lecturer from JAVVA NGO – Olivier Gbeezeza, shared his experience in a youth organization aimed at volunteering promotion, best and worst practices, what should be achieved and what measures can prevent from achieving the goals prioritized by the network. As mentioned by the guest the first thing to guarantee a stable development and full implementation of its objectives was a team work, cooperation between the network members, finding innovative ways of expressing opinions and influencing on the current situation. The aim of this exercise, his input, was to show young participants how your personal participation/action can contribute to a greater goal, to social inclusion, personal and of other young refugees!

In the afternoon we were again separated into four groups to discuss the following issues:

- Advocacy

- Visibility/Communication
- Training/Capacity buildings
- Fundraising

After the presentation of these groups some things were clearer, more realistic, possible and reachable, talking about what we individually and together can do on these issues, using our daily realities, experience we gain till now and the one we are about to gain.

Later on the groups that were created in the second day, trying to use different ways of expressing ourselves in creating presentation of what is youth participation and social inclusion for refugee youth, that is supposed to be presented the next day to some very important guests.



26 June 2009

Debate on youth participation + theatre – presentation to the external guests

This was the day when the participants took the leading role and had the opportunity to send messages to UNHCR, PACE, OHCHR, Migration and Roma Department at the Council of Europe and other important people.

With a feeling of a great responsibility the participants introduced themselves as well as VYRE which was presented as well as what it stands for.

The presentations of four groups showed that there is a lot of creativity in VYRE; strong and clear messages about the challenges that refugee youth face in their

everyday life and that were identified in the previous days were presented. It had a strong impact on the guests that then shared their visions, impressions, and the messages sent.

The messages obviously had a great impact as some tangible steps were suggested from the side of guests: VYRE giving input to the Migration and Roma Department at the CoE study on social cohesion that is to be published in the near future, VYRE submitting request to become an observer at the CDMG, common VYRE-UNHCR action for the World Refugee Day 2010 as suggested by UNHCR representative.

The feed back given was encouraging as the participants felt that there is lot of potential within VYRE.

A common conclusion was that the presentations managed to touch people's hearts and not just their minds. The success of the day was a proof that we as VYRE have taken the right path towards breaking down the wall of indifference.

The afternoon was spent in sport activities, interesting games, small competitions, lots of laugh and fun, and a barbeque with local NGO representatives.



27 June 2009

Action plans/follow up, individual and VYRE's

The last day of the study session started with final presentation of VYRE origins and past, to introduce the discussion about the present and future of VYRE (2010/2011).

With many open questions (the best way to organize work in future, the most efficient way of achieving common goals...) the participants started working on individual action plans for the next few months as well as a common action plan for VYRE with delegating jobs and defining the deadlines. The exercise ended with many interesting and achievable ideas and project proposals. After filling out the evaluation sheets the only thing left was a farewell party!

PROGRAMME – INPUTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The main issues raised

Through joint discussion on trust/mistrust and inclusion into a host society, and challenging the relation between these two, inclusion into any society was immediately linked with a social context of the host country/community as well as personal characters, disappointments and achievements experienced. The conclusion of the discussion was that the ones that go forward often forget about the ones left behind; people can be forced to adopt having no other choice.

Discussion about how people feel in different situations resulted with a conclusion (one of many) that not all the people are equal in exercising rights. One of the crucial conclusions in the end of the discussion after the “trust exercise” was that social cohesion means dignity of each and every person, their ability and contribution to the society.

Young refugees throughout world struggle with similar challenges: misunderstanding, mistrust, fear of/not accepting diversity, prejudice, problems with adaptation, low self-esteem, slow/hindered integration, poor access to basic social and other rights, access to formal/non formal education, employment etc. Young refugees often lack knowledge about young refugees’ rights, possibilities and opportunities provided by local communities.

Aspects of integration as presented by the external expert, professor Guerraoui are (6 points in 2 types of transformation):

- **Integration:** inclusion - assimilation – integration and
- **Exclusion:** separation/segregation - marginalization – exclusion.

A conclusion of participants after the input was that integration is not an easy process where all groups have to make efforts to find common ground and to live peacefully side by side; changes are natural and we should harmonize within cultures, give values to others culture and respect it included individual, be aware of the other parties in a friendly manner; misunderstanding will decrease gaps between groups, sometimes we need more time to understand as things are not always straight forward.

What is participation for us in daily practice? How do youth participate in our realities? No participation is also a form of participation, a way to send a message.

A common conclusion was that the elements enhancing youth participation were an opportunity of having a choice, expression of opinions, view points and an ability to hear, to learn and also be heard and have an opportunity to share experiences.

MAIN OUTCOMES OF THE STUDY SESSION

Recommendations or statements on issues that require particular attention

The host societies should put more effort into transforming assimilation into a two way process of integration, with mutual respect and understanding. Furthermore we call for active participation of young exiles in national youth activities in the host country and recommend that States and Youth organizations should encourage and support young exiles participation in various activities that could contribute to their empowerment and facilitate the integration in the host community as well as reintegration in the country of origin.

During VYRE's study session we concluded that it is "the role of all" to promote tolerance, open-mindedness, respect for difference and others' values. Cultural diversity in Europe should be taken as an advantage and celebrated, instead of being seen as a negative thing.

There is a need for more opportunities to learn about people from other cultures in Europe, and Governments have an "important influencing role" to help establish or facilitate frameworks to aid social cohesion.

Valuing multiculturalism is an important aspect for social cohesion. The importance of communication between diverse groups, has underscored the need for a common language, therefore assistance with learning local language(s) is crucial. As well as encouraging migrants to retain their native languages and also learning of other languages should be promoted as a way to appreciate different cultures and world views.

VYRE sees education as one of the main factors contributing to social inclusion. People who cannot speak the language of the dominant majority fluently and who do not have an educational background that gives access to information, or permits them to be employed in more stable and sustainable jobs, are bound to remain socially excluded and discriminated against.

In this regard, VYRE is doing its outmost to assist refugee youth in their self-empowerment and raise awareness to all relevant actors that refugee youth have a strong potential to be a part of social cohesion.

In this common effort of all we have found support by the Council of Europe and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and our local organizations that together with us as individuals constitute the life and spirits of VYRE.

Main results for VYRE

The study session gave VYRE the opportunity to learn more of the social inclusion and its relation to active participation. For this purpose there were two external experts- one giving the input on social inclusion and the other giving the input based on personal experience about participation and how it is and can be linked to better social inclusion of refugee youth.

One of the main results is better cohesion and stronger relations between VYRE members; stronger feeling of VYRE identity and recognized needs in terms of weaknesses of VYRE members. It was concluded that we need to go deeper with exploring social inclusion and social rights in practice. That gave us the idea of the topic for the next study session and that is social rights in practice.

Also the prep team members learned how to organize an event such as this one and what is there to prepare beforehand, what are the necessary resources for preparing it. Preparing and carrying sessions within the study session the prep team members learned how to use the tool called active participation or better say how to actively involve other participants to interactively learn from the inputs as well as each other.

And last but not least VYRE created a common action plan for the near future, realistic and achievable.

Main learning points for participants

Through the study session implementation the participants were given an opportunity to identify common challenges that refugee youth face worldwide. It in its turn served as a ground for a common action plan development and support how to establish cooperation among the participants in achieving overall objectives and goals despite country background differences.

Due to discussions with experts and professionals acting in the field of social inclusion, an exceptional chance appeared to define the functioning of transformation mechanisms both in theory and practice, and to learn the ability of not giving way to the stream but rather discover possible solutions.

It was significant for the participants to assess their own participation in the social life of a host community and gain a better understanding of what can be provided to a host community as contribution leading to further inclusion, why attempts to involvement do not work sometimes and what measures can be undertaken to avoid failures.

An important task for the participants was to consider their own needs and interests to be able to support their social inclusion, integration and their aspirations. Through interactive exercises the participants learned how to define their potentials, realize their position in a host society and level of involvement. as Refugee youth can be an important social, economic and cultural factor, their skills, experience and resilience can be valuable contribution to their host communities.

Public authorities, other institutions, and the general public may have assumptions about migrants that differ from what the migrants themselves see as their interests, needs and capabilities.

Equally, refugees can have misperceptions or misunderstandings regarding the laws, customs and conditions in their host country. Therefore participants came to a conclusion that these gaps can be reduced by promoting their participation, moreover, their full nonintervention in decisions that have an impact on their lives.

Description of projects developed during the session

VYRE action plan for 2010/2011 was developed during the study session implementation, where the following activities contributing the network development, formalising and its main objectives and aims achievement, including social inclusion, were included:

- VYRE web-page creation
- VYRE Code of Conduct development
- Monthly informational newsletter edition and dissemination among VYRE members
- VYRE observer status with PACE Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population.

Based on experts/guests advocacy during the study session it was commonly decided to develop small-scale projects, promoting the network on a local level.

Projects/programs will be aimed at networking and connecting young refugees worldwide, promoting social inclusion through reaching all possible layers of social sectors, establishing cooperation with governmental agencies, NGOs active in the field, providing timely and reliable information, raising awareness on developments in the spheres of migration and human rights.

A special stress will be put on the network visibility ensuring through development of newspapers, leaflets, brochures as well as using advantages of the specific role of the media in the world.

Possible suggestions or recommendations for the Council of Europe (including for the work of the Directorate of Youth and Sport)

For refugee youth, arrival in the host country is simply a matter of survival. Literally, these youths do not exist, as they have no personal documents they have no existence... They have access to nothing and learn to live with fear- fear for/of everything. For refugee youth with access to protection the new chapter of integration begins. Facilitated or not, it is a challenge: A new language, new societal and cultural norms- assimilation or integration? What is my identity? Do I belong here? Can I be a part of this society? Am I welcome?

In this framework the discussion on social cohesion, social inclusion and mobility seem obscure. It is a sad truth but refugee youth feel excluded. Refugee youth might be mobile but at the same time stand stranded between administrative malpractice and hard legislative barriers. Exemptions to this reality do exist but remain only a few. It is important to learn from them.

Indeed, migration can contribute to diversity and mobility but young refugees firstly need to be given the access and right to contribute to diversity and cohesion. And this circle of exclusion is a vicious one - the more excluded young refugees feel, the more difficult it is to encourage their active participation.

Therefore, the initial practical introduction to the host society is an essential part of the longstanding integration process and it should be supported throughout Europe.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES

A common action plan was adopted for the next year as well as individual action plans. The next action will be developing the second study session application. A request for CDMG observer status will be submitted as well.

Also, usual communication and exchange of information will be continued within the Network and between the Network and other relevant NGOs and institutions, as well as with DYS CoE and UNHCR.

The members of the Network will use the opportunities offered by the DYS to improve skills and gain more knowledge on the issues of common concern.

FINAL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

VYRE first study session was an opportunity to evaluate VYRE's capabilities and abilities in providing young refugees with a chance to unify their voices and provide self empowerment tools. It goes without further saying that VYRE has succeeded in doing so. The network has managed to design a study session fulfilling the purpose of listening, engaging and assist young refugees in their everyday with the end goal being able to fully participate in their local realities.

During numerous discussing regarding the various barriers and challenges young refugees face in Europe and beyond the participant have had the opportunity to exchange good practises as well as learning new tools that will enable them to understand the need for participation within their local settings as well as understanding the importance of social inclusion.

The participants have learned how to evaluate their participatory level with the " How do you participate" activity, which also required them to consider the opportunities that promote their participation and action/ legislations that hinder their access to social inclusion. In this instance the participations realised that a big part of participation is being able to do so, or better said, being allowed to do so in terms of their social rights within their local realities.

To conclude VYRE's future lies in its interaction and empowerment of young refugees and its importance is its ability to engage those that are a part of the huge marginalised group. The study session has shown that the young refugees are the ones that know exactly what it is they needs and wants are and they are the ones that can best achieve it through support,empowerment and the simples fact act of listening to them. VYRE would have not been able to put together such a study session without the necessary support and the huge input from the participations.

VYRE 's main recommendation is that this marginalised group gets included in decision making level. In order to speak on their behalf it is important to understand what they are going through, why it is so and what can be done about it collectively.

APPENDICES

- Final programme, as executed
- List of participants and countries
- List of references used

Annex 1. Final Programme:

Active participation as a tool for social inclusion

European Youth Centre, Strasbourg – France, 21-28th June 2009

	Sunday 21.06	Monday 22.06	Tuesday 23.06	Wednesday 24.06	Thursday 25.06	Friday 26.06	Saturday 27.06	Sunday 28.06
Morning 9.15-11:00	Arrival of participants	Opening VYRE/ COE Presentation - team - background of the activity - organising institutions - programme, - aims & objectives - Participants	Challenges to youth participation	Ladder of participation How do i really participate (Follow up)	Youth work Networking Social inclusion	Participants day. Theatre and round table debate	Action plans	D E P A R T U R E
Coffee break 11.00-11.30		Hope & fears Expectations	Expert on integration Pr. Zohra Guerraoui Université Toulouse	Conclusion on youth participation	Guest lecturer Olivier Gbezera (JAVVA)	-Presentation by participants - discussion with invited guests (PACE, DG III, EYF, UNHCR, DGIV, Commissioner for Human- Rights, local associations)		
11:30-13:00				Picnic Orangerie				
Lunch 13.00-14.30								
Afternoon 14.30-15.45		Group & trust building	What is and how does youth participation work?	Reimbursment	Thematic working groups	Sports afternoon	Follow-up What's next for VYRE?	
Coffee break 15.45- 16.15			Self assessment (How do I participate?)	13:30 Exhibition UNHCR"real needs for real people"	VYRE business		Evaluation	
16:15-17:30		P a x F r i d a y p r e p		Free afternoon				
17:30-18.00					Pax Friday prep			
PAX TIME 18.00 – 19.00								
DINNER 19.00	Welcome evening Ice breakers	Intercultural evening	Movie night?	Dinner in town		Barbecue with local NGOs	Farewell party	

Annex 2. List of participants and countries

Final list of participants VYRE 2009 study session			
No	Surname	Name	Country of residence
1	ABANDA	SERGE	Slovenia
2	ABDELRAHMAN	OSAMA	Bulgaria
3	ACHUO EBUA	ANTHONY	Cyprus
4	ADHAM ISMAIL	MUHAMMAD	Germany
5	ADOBA	YEVA	Hungary
6	AKSIC	GORAN	Serbia
7	ALDENHOFF	LAURENT	Ireland
8	BALAVADZE	NONA	Georgia
9	FARKAS	ALEKSANDAR	Serbia
10	GATSINZI	JEAN	Austria
11	GHAZARYAN	INESSA	Armenia
12	HAMA-SALEH ABDULLAH	REBAR	Germany
13	HRYTSKO	OLENA	Ukraine
14	HASHEMI-NIK	AMIR	Sweden
15	KARISIK	MILENA	Montenegro
16	MIJOVIC	ZORAN	Montenegro
17	SHUMELI	ALTIN	Albania
18	SMOTER	BARTOSZ	Poland
19	SOTRA	TAMARA	Serbia
20	SUSA	JELENA	Serbia
21	TAHIROV	MIRI	Azerbaijan
22	TANKOSIC	MILAN	Croatia
23	VULICEVIC	IVAN	Serbia
24	WAKO	NYAKUETH	Great Britain
25	SOULEYMAN	ABDULAYE	France

Annex 3. List of references used

DYS Publications

1. Compass: A manual to human rights education with young people.
2. All different All equal Education pack: ideas, resources, methods and activities for informal intercultural education with young people and adults
3. Tkit No4
Intercultural learning
4. Tkit No6
Training essentials
5. Tkit No8
Social Inclusion

2 pages to remain empty at the end of the report