



DDP/EYCB/YPC/2018/26

Budapest, 3 October 2018



European Youth Centre Budapest

26 June – 3 July 2018

FINAL REPORT

The implementation of the activity was supported by the Directorate of Political Affairs
(DPA) and the Youth Board of Cyprus



Copyright of this publication is held by the Council of Europe. No parts of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted for commercial purposes in any form or by any means, electronic (CD-ROM, Internet, etc) or mechanical, including photocopying, recording or any information storage or retrieval system, without the permission in writing from the Council of Europe: youth@coe.int.

Source of photos: Educational Team of the Youth Peace Camp 2018

Reproduction of material from this publication is authorised for non-commercial education purposes only on condition that the source is properly quoted.

Copyright: Council of Europe, 2018



Acknowledgements

The report was prepared by Ramon Tena, senior trainer/consultant, in cooperation with Laszlo Milutinovits, Educational advisor at the Youth Department of the Council of Europe. It gives an overview of the various aspects of this project and its main outcomes. It provides also some recommendations for future editions of the Youth Peace Camp. The information on this report gathers also the views from the educational team and includes the participants' evaluations.

We would like to express our gratitude to all those who contributed to this report, in particular to the facilitators and participants of the Youth Peace Camp 2018, and to colleagues at the Youth Department of the Council of Europe: to Rui Gomes for coordination and for Zsuzsanna Molnar for administrative support. Also, a special thanks for Jesse Van de Woestijne, EYCB intern for processing the evaluations by participants and for Anna Erhardt who supported our work during the Youth Peace Camp as a volunteer and is responsible for some of the most amazing pictures in this report.

We have made all possible efforts to trace references of texts and activities to their authors and give them the necessary credits. We apologise for any omissions and will be pleased to correct them if requested.





CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	5
ABOUT THE YOUTH PEACE CAMP	9
THE YOUTH PEACE CAMP 2018	12
1. Aim and objectives	13
2. Information on the educational team.....	14
3. Information on participants	16
4. Institutional context	19
5. Programme.....	20
6. Methodologies	31
7. Challenges	34
8. Participants evaluation.....	39
CONCLUSIONS	40
& RECOMMENDATIONS	40
1. Team-management	41
2. Profile of facilitators.....	41
3. Balance in the team.....	42
4. Profile of participants.....	42
5. Hot vs frozen conflicts.....	43
6. Provide opportunities for more bi-communal communication.....	43
7. Structured follow up	44
8. Outreach & visibility.....	45
APPENDICES.....	48
APPENDIX 1: PROGRAMME.....	49
APPENDIX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS	53
APPENDIX 3: DIALOGUE DAY BROCHURE	57
APPENDIX 4: FOLLOW UP SHEET.....	59
APPENDIX 5: PARTICIPANTS EVALUATION SUMMARY	Error! Bookmark not defined.
APPENDIX 6: LIST OF IDEAS FOR FOLLOW UP INITIATIVES BY PARTICIPANTS	60



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



The Youth Peace Camp (YPC) 2018 took place in the European Youth Centre Budapest (Hungary), from 26 June to 3 July 2018. The camp brought together 50 participants from the from the following countries and communities: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cyprus (Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots), Kosovo*, South Caucasus region and both banks of the river Nistru/Dniestr

The camp created a safe space where participants could develop their competences in peace building and conflict transformation, explore the ways in which conflict affected them, establish a dialogue with young people coming from “the other side” and increase their competences in project planning.

The YPC was facilitated by 11 facilitators - one from each of the participants’ communities- and one senior trainer, supported by staff from the Youth Department. It had three main parts: on the first three days, participants worked on team-building and increasing their competences on understanding conflict and communication. Following a trend from the previous edition, the Dialogue Day was at the core of the camp, while the last few days were dedicated to planning follow-up projects.

This year, participants explored deeply their own story within the conflict and shared their personal stories with youth coming from the other side. This had a strong effect: constructive conversations on the conflict and possible solutions to break the circle of misunderstanding started in the programme and also spontaneously among participants from different communities. This also had a positive effect in creating commitment towards multiplying actions (joint and individual) upon their return to communities. Although a tiring and very emotional day the result was a boost in empathy, trust and mutual understanding between the young participants.

The last three days of the camp focused on developing participants’ capacity to develop their own projects in conflict transformation. This year more attention was given to follow-up, focusing especially on strengthening the relationship between facilitators and participants from their own communities.

**All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.*



Besides the follow-up tools, attention was also given to empowering their individual role as peace-builders in their own communities and managing the frustration they may encounter upon their return.

The results of the Camp were very positively evaluated, both by participants and facilitators. The participants appreciated the flow and contents, as well as the transformational effect the Camp had on them. The facilitators considered that the aims and objectives were fully met and that their participants were highly motivated to start multiplying actions in the following months.







ABOUT THE YOUTH PEACE CAMP



The Youth Peace Camp is a project of the Council of Europe's Youth Department that was born in 2003 in the framework of its confidence-building measures. The Camp provides a unique opportunity for youngsters from conflict-stricken regions to meet and understand the process to transform conflicts. It provides a safe space for participants to share their experiences with conflicts and to build their capacity to engage and/or develop future conflict transformation projects and initiatives.

The Youth Peace Camp is singular regarding its longevity: it has been developed every year since its inception in 2003, reaching in 2018 its 16th edition. More than 500 young people from Caucasus, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and South-East Europe have increased their competences as peace-builders in these 16 years.



The Camp is also singular in the profile of participants: rare are the educational activities of the European Youth Centres that are addressed to young people with little or no experience in the area tackled by the activity, and the Youth Peace Camp is one of them. Finally, the Youth Peace Camp is the only long-running project of the Youth Department targeting specifically young people from conflict-affected areas.

Project background

Young people growing up in regions affected by armed conflicts, being exposed to and enduring the consequences of extreme forms of direct, cultural and structural violence, are often confronted with dramatic life-forming experiences, emotions and challenges. Such experiences may strongly influence their views and behaviour towards their own and other communities, their relation to conflict and peace and to their own identity. The Youth Peace Camp was developed on the assumption that when supported young people can break free from cycles of hatred, blame and intolerance and become multipliers for dialogue, peace and reconciliation in their own communities.

In their role as peer leaders and in learning about conflict and peace, it is important for young people to be able to relate to, and to be confronted with the life stories, experiences and aspirations of other youth from their own region and other conflict areas. One of the



Youth Peace Camp key features has been to provide young people with the opportunity to better understand conflicts and their transformation by listening to and living with other young people affected by conflicts.

For the Youth Department of the Council of Europe, the Youth Peace Camp has been a significant learning opportunity to better understand the challenges that young people from conflict-affected areas are confronted with as well as to gather knowledge about the local and national realities in the participating countries. The understanding developed by the institution has led to the strengthening of the work of the Council of Europe in the concerned regions. The links developed with participants, facilitators and local organisations were very valuable elements in this regard. This informal network has supported the Council of Europe in its work with youth organisations in those countries, especially those supported by the European Youth Foundation. The experience gained from the Youth Peace Camp has also contributed to the development of other activities such as the Youth Peace Ambassadors project and national action plans of the Council of Europe in the concerned countries. The visits of members of the Advisory Council on Youth to the Youth Peace Camp helped the statutory bodies of the Youth Department to become more familiar with the stakes of the project and be more aware of the realities of young people living in conflict-stricken regions. The outcomes of the Youth Peace Camp are encouragements for the Youth Department of the Council of Europe to continue and deepen its work in peacebuilding.

Follow up and Youth Peace Camp after 2018

The rhythm of holding Youth Peace Camps is expected to be changed from yearly to biennial after 2018, giving more space for structured and properly supported follow-up. The follow up is expected to be based on the needs of participants in designing and implementing their follow up initiatives, and it should also enhance the effect of the Youth Peace Camp and give visibility to successful local and regional peace-building efforts by young participants from this year's or previous camps. Therefore in the camp's programme in 2018 there was specific attention paid to the preparations of follow up initiatives in 2019.



THE YOUTH PEACE CAMP 2018



1. Aim and objectives

The Youth Peace Camp engages young people and youth organisations from conflict affected regions in dialogue and conflict transformation activities based on human rights education and intercultural learning during and after the camp.

Objectives:

- To develop awareness and basic competences (knowledge, skills and attitudes) of participants in human rights education, conflict transformation, intercultural learning and dialogue, including a critical understanding of personal and collective identities and their role in conflicts
- To enable participants to share personal experiences of conflict and violence and coping strategies in a positive and safe atmosphere of living and learning together
- To motivate and support participants in their role as multipliers and peer leaders in peace-building activities with young people encouraging them to implement follow-up initiatives
- To promote and share existing youth work practices and experiences of young people working on dialogue and conflict transformation in their home communities
- To strengthen the role of the Council of Europe, in particular through its Youth for Democracy programme, in its efforts towards strengthening youth work in the field of conflict transformation, social cohesion and intercultural dialogue and in the framework - and/or contributing to – the approaches of the UN Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015).

As a continuation of its involvement in 2017, this year the Youth Board of Cyprus contributed with supporting the participation of a group of Cypriot participants.



2. Information on the educational team

The Youth Peace Camp 2018 was facilitated by a group of 11 facilitators (one from each of the participating communities) with a gender balance, one senior trainer and one educational advisor from the Youth Department. The Head of Division Education and Training of the Council of Europe Youth Department supervised and supported the work of the team throughout the process.

The facilitators and trainer were selected through an open call distributed in the Trainers Pool of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe and the network of previous Youth Peace Camp participants. As a result, among facilitators were several participants in previous editions of the Youth Peace Camp, as well as former facilitators, with experience also in the organisation of regional Youth Peace Camps.

As in previous years, there's always the issue of having more and less experienced trainers in the team of facilitators. Through development of the Camp, however, a good balance was found. As stated in the written and oral evaluations, for all members of the team it was a learning experience and there were no moments in which any member felt left out or contributing less of what she/he could do.

Both of these features -connection of facilitators with previous editions and mixed





experience in the team- were a clear added value and it's recommended that it's maintained for following editions.

One of the challenges we faced as a team was related to the participation of a group of both sides of the river Dniestr/Nistru. Although it was planned already during the first preparatory meeting (March), the two facilitators were not selected until June. This meant that they couldn't participate in team work preparations before the second preparatory meeting. This could have affected negatively team dynamics.

This challenge was faced by organising team-building activities during the June preparatory meeting, and by being very flexible in the planning and implementation of sessions during the Youth Peace Camp. One of the agreements in the team was always to **keep an open and honest communication**. It was agreed that all issues that could pose a potential threat or any potential conflict would be dealt openly, if necessary with the intervention of other members of the team not directly involved in the issue who could act as facilitators of communication.

The preparation process included two 2-day preparatory meetings at the European Youth Centre in Budapest (Hungary): the first one in March and the second before the start of the Youth Peace Camp. The preparatory meeting¹ concluded with a clear programme and a first draft of the elements that needed to be developed in each session. Some facilitators considered that one more day would be necessary for the first preparatory meeting. Between March and June, there were on-line contacts to develop the different elements of the Camp, especially intensive between the educational advisor and the senior trainer. They were responsible of the development of session outlines, together with one or two facilitators.

Since a good team-spirit is key in the Youth Peace Camp, preparatory meetings included formal and informal team-building activities within the team. This fuelled cooperation and confidence, gave a sense of shared mission and facilitated communication and dialogue. This was extremely important to manage the stressful moments during the Camp.



¹ For more information, see document DDCP/EYCB/YPC/2018/10



Related to this, **another important feature that ensured the success of the Camp was the fact that the relationship between facilitators from confronted communities was very good and constructive.** This fact was helpful in showing a good example to participants and was instrumental for managing some moments of difficulty we faced during the Camp. An example of this took place during the last days of the Camp, when the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan saw some military action. With the help of facilitators, the group gathered together and had a discussion on the issue.

3. Information on participants

The Youth Peace Camp 2018 gathered 50 participants from 11 different communities. They were selected among 368 applications. As a trend of past Youth Peace Camps, there's an important **imbalance in the number of applications from the different communities** – that is partly rooted in the fact that some of the communities concerned are relatively small. E.g. it proved to be generally difficult to reach out to enough young people from Serbian community in Kosovo and to Turkish Cypriots. Young people from Chisinau and Tiraspol were selected in cooperation with the Directorate of Political Affairs and local authorities.

Applications were first reviewed by the educational advisor and the senior trainer. At a second stage, a list of pre-selected applicants was sent to facilitators for a final selection of 6 participants and 2 for the reserve list. The final list was sent to the Youth Department for confirmation or any suggestions on adjustments.

Participants came from the following communities:

- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Cyprus (Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots)
- South Caucasus
- Kosovo
- Both banks of the river Dniestr/Nistru



In line with other editions of Youth Peace Camp, the activity was planned to **give an opportunity to young people with little or no experience in international activities**. For the 2018 edition the team also agreed to selecting young people from rural areas too and that had been affected directly by conflict. The reason for this is that the team wanted to



target young people who were new to the field and so to expand the basis of young people who want to make a difference in their communities of origin.

This year, the work on follow up initiatives with participants during the Camp was one of the main

objectives. For this reason, another important feature for the team was to select participants who had very clear ideas in terms of follow-up.

Participants were selected mainly from NGO's (to facilitate follow-up actions), but the door was opened also for young people active at local level, even if not linked to an NGO. As specified during the preparatory meeting in March the selection criteria where the following:

SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Core criteria in the call (English, availability, age...);
2. Priority given to youth with no international experience;
3. Preference to youth coming from NGO's, but also accepting individuals who are active at local level & coming from fields of policy-making & research (ratio 5:1 approx.);
4. Preferably not from the same NGO;
5. Priority to youth affected/displaced by conflict & from rural areas
6. With clear and SPECIFIC ideas regarding follow-up;
7. Accepting some youth who may have different ideas or

Participants from South Caucasus region



Young people from the South Caucasus and its areas affected by the conflict were a major group of the camp. Altogether, fifteen young people from Tbilisi, Sukhumi and Tskhinvali participated in the programme including a facilitator from each community concerned (including three from Tskhinvali and five from Sukhumi) with the help of the Directorate of Political Affairs.

There dynamics of the relationship and interaction in between the groups varied as the situation in Sukhumi is not the same as in Tskhinvali in terms of dialogue and joint activities (being stronger between Sukhumi and Tbilisi authorities), but the team managed to adapt methodologies to answer the needs of participants in every situation, especially during Dialogue Day and planning follow-up.

Participants from both banks of the River Dniestr/Nistru

For the first time, the Youth Peace Camp hosted participants from Chisinau and Tiraspol. It was a challenging situation, but the end-result was beneficial both for participants and for the YPC. First of all, it was the opportunity to discover a frozen conflict that doesn't attract much attention. Second, for most participants it was the first opportunity they had to talk directly with a person from the other side of the river.

In spite of the initial difficulties faced this year, it is recommended to invite again participants from these regions.

Participants from Cyprus

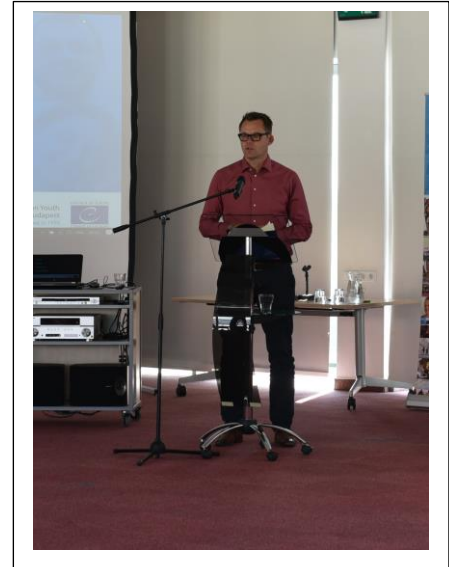
This year YPC hosted for the second time a group of nine Cypriot participants. Their participation was supported by the Cypriot Youth Board. Confidence-building measures in Cyprus are much more advanced than in other participating communities: the group was together most of the time and decided to participate as a single group in some of the activities. However, it was very useful for other participants to experience first-hand the dynamics of a conflict that is a very advanced stage of resolution.



4. Institutional context

In 2018, the Youth Peace Camp was organised at the European Youth Centre in Budapest. Although being far from Strasbourg, the Youth Peace Camp benefited from high-level official visits. The institutional guest speakers that visited the camp this year were:

- *Matjaž Gruden*, Director of Democratic Participation;
- *Antje Rothemund*, Head of the Youth Department;
- *Gordana Berjan*, Executive Director of the European Youth Centre Budapest;
- *Rui Gomes*, Head of Education and Training, Youth Department;
- *Albina Ovcearenco*, Political Advisor, Political Affairs Directorate.
- *Karen Palisser*, European Youth Foundation (on-line)



During the camp, we also received the visit from a representative of the statutory bodies from the Youth Department: *Gizem Kilinc*, Leading coordinator of UNOY Peacebuilders and Member of the Advisory Council on Youth, Council of Europe joined the group for the last day and for the official closing.



Institutional visits helped participants make sense of the importance of the Camp in the framework of the Council of Europe's confidence-building measures in conflict affected regions. They were also useful in helping participants understand how the institution is promoting peacebuilding and the Camp within in a wider human rights framework.

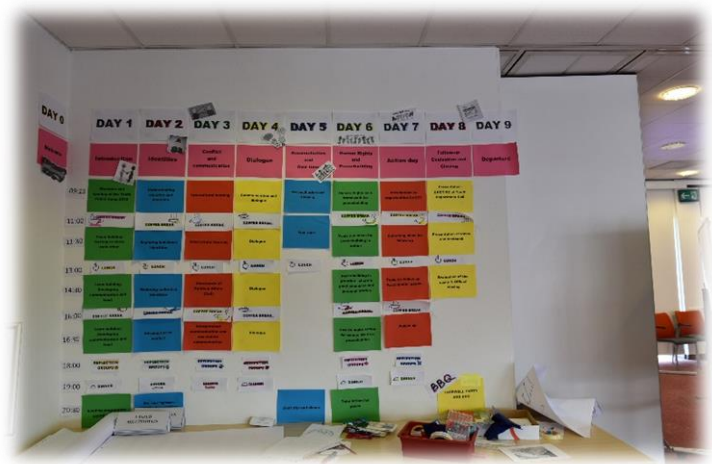
Finally, and probably most important of all, they were **very supportive of participants and their presence created synergies to help in participants' follow up projects.**



Outreach and visibility

On the days prior to the Youth Peace Camp, the team agreed to set up a blog to talk about the experience and share information on the evolution of the Camp. Facilitators were in charge of updating the blog and writing new posts. In total, there have been 5 posts published so far – however, the blog may be still be used during the follow up period possibly in 2019. The address of the blog is: <https://ypc2018blog.wordpress.com/>

All participants and members of the educational team were also in a Facebook group (Youth Peace Camp Budapest 2018) that they used to post pictures and information on activities, both during formal and informal moments. Finally, twitter was also used to a lesser extent, using the hashtags *#ypc2018* and *#hateoffloveon*.



5. Programme

In 2018 the Camp had eight working days. It also followed a structure that proved successful in past editions. Participants spend the first days knowing each other (and exploring their individual identity) and working around basic concepts to understand conflict transformation such as communication, the characteristics of individual and group identities, perception, conflict and violence. All this work prepared them to tackle Dialogue Day; during this day dialogue was promoted between participants on how conflict affected them focusing specifically in creating conversations with “the other side”. After an emotional and very demanding Dialogue Day, participants had a part of the next day’s morning and the full afternoon as free time.

Once participants had a clear understanding on the roots of conflict and violence, they started to answer the question on: what to do next? Participants worked on possible answers to build peace in their communities, with a special focus on creating follow-up actions upon their return home. ²

² For more information on follow-up ideas, please refer to Appendix 6



Day 0: Welcome evening

Monday 25 June

On the arrival day, an informal evening programme was organised. Participants were welcomed to the European Youth Centre and introduced to the educational team. After some ice-breaking activities, participants enjoyed some snacks and drinks to mingle with each other.

An important piece of information was given to participants upon their arrival: when introducing to each other, don't mention the community they were coming from. This was a way to start meeting with other human beings, irrespectively of the place they were coming from.

Day 1: Introductions

Tuesday 26 June

The Camp was opened by Matjaž Gruden, the Director of Democratic Participation. He stressed the vital role of confidence-building measures for the Council of Europe and the importance of planning follow-up for this type of activities. As he underlined, building peace takes time. Participants were also addressed by the Head of Education and Training Division of the Youth Department, Rui Gomes, who gave participants information on the Youth Peace Camp and told about the importance of their role in promoting positive changes in their communities. Mr. Gomes also explained participants the new trend to organise Youth Peace Camp every two years. This will give more time to work on follow-up and planning of the next edition.



After a presentation of the main aspects of the Youth Peace Camp (introduction of the programme, sharing fears and expectations, information on the Council of Europe...), the rest of the day was spent in activities that helped participants build trust with each other. This paved the way for the activities that happened the next days.

At the end of the day, reflection groups were introduced. These were mixed groups where, with the help of one of the facilitators, participants reflected on the content on the day, the issues happening during informal moments, as well as the emotional and educational path



that participants were following. The reflection groups – that remained unchanged during the entire Camp- where one of the elements that participants appreciated most.

The day ended with a social evening.

Day 2: Identities

Wednesday, 27 June

As a general rule, this year the educational team agreed to help participants explore issues around identity and conflict deeper. There was a risk in this decision as reactions of participants were hard to predict. However, at the same time the team saw it as an opportunity for participants to self-reflect and maintain the idea of the Youth Peace Camp as a life-changing activity. As seen by the results, the extra effort paid off and participants were able to see issues around conflict and identity in a totally different light that promoted empathy and culture of peace.

“Today I just realised that the future can be different.”

A participant during one of the afternoon Reflection groups.

The first session of the day evolved around empathy. Participants took part in two activities that invited them to check their behaviour when they're in conflict and to reflect individually on a recent conflict they had. This session used mindfulness and neuro-linguistic programming (NLP) techniques.

This set the tone for what in general was a very deep and emotional day.

After working on empathy, participants started to reflect on identity. First, they worked on assessing individual identity and understanding how their identity is formed. In the afternoon they continued to work on the issue but from a collective perspective. They reflected on the fact that we may have different individual identities and that these may enter into conflict with the collective identity we have as a group (or community, nation, country...).

The last activity of the day took participants to reflect on conflict, especially on the fact that conflict has its origin in the unmet needs. This activity helped participants understand



the importance of paying attention to the different needs of the other person when they're in conflict.



After the dinner we introduced an idea for self-organised activities for participants. Participants were invited to organise “clubs” where some of them would lead leisure activities for other participants such as dancing, yoga, sports or sightseeing.

Day 3: Conflict & Communication

Thursday 28 June

This day focused on helping participants understand and increase their communication skills, both from an intercultural and interpersonal perspective. During the day we also stressed the fact that conflict is many times created and fuelled due to ineffective communication, but that conflict can also provoke a break in communication, thus entering into a vicious circle. For this reason, we introduced non-violent communication and active listening tools.



The morning focused in intercultural learning/communication. The day started with a simulation-game (The Derrians) to work on intercultural communication, see how it functions and the challenges that it sets.

During the afternoon, participants met Peacebuilding Albina Ovcearenco, from the Directorate of Political Affairs who presented the political work of the Council of Europe in the regions concerned and confidence building measures. Later the group also experienced a role play to reflect on how communication can fuel a conflict and on practising non-violent communication to promote a more constructive approach towards conflict.



The day was designed as a build-up for Dialogue Day. By the end of the day, the next day activity was presented, and participants received a brochure explaining the structure of Dialogue Day.

By the end of the day, the team convened a meeting to prepare for Dialogue Day. Among other reflections, the methodology of Peace Circles was introduced.

Day 4: Dialogue

Friday 29 June

Dialogue is at the core of the Youth Peace Camp, and this day was at the heart of all efforts in equipping participants to understand and feel conflict transformation. It was one of the hardest days in the Camp, but also one of the activities that participants valued more and that had a strongest effect.

“Now, I want to break stereotypes that my family has.”

Hakub (Armenia)

In line with the general design of the Camp, the team decided to promote a deep reflection (and sharing) on the experience of participants with conflict. For this reason, facilitators encouraged participants to share their personal stories regarding conflict. This was done both in mixed and bi-community groups.³

Although the design of the day was similar for all communities, based on the experience of the previous years we decided that facilitators could adapt the content of the bi-community meetings to their specific needs.



The day started with a short reflection on the difference between debate and dialogue.

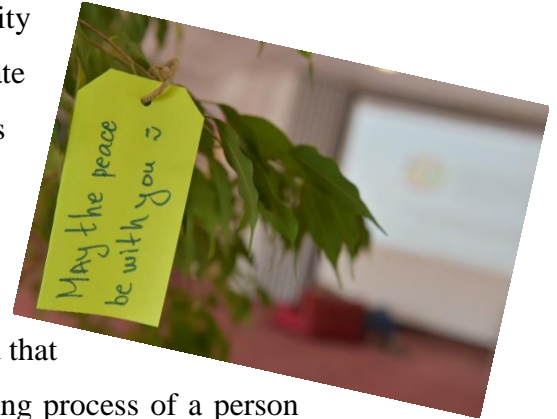
Participants met first of all in mono-community groups. The aim of this short meeting was for facilitators to start preparing their participants for the following steps.

³ Participants met in mono community groups (the facilitator with participants from a single community), mixed community groups (with members of all communities presents in the Camp) and bi-community groups (directly with members of “the other side”).



They explored with them their **expectations, fears and the way they would manage these**. Of particular importance was the question on whether they were prepared (and how they would react) to hear blaming from the other side.

This paved the way for a longer meeting in mixed community groups, where they shared their personal and more intimate story in the conflict with the other side. All facilitators shared that these were very emotional meetings but that had a **healing effect for many participants**. As they explained, for some it was the first time in many years that they had shared some traumatic moments of their childhood that had been silent in their families. In this sense, in the healing process of a person who feels as a victim, it's helpful to have opportunities to vent out personal stories and strong feelings.



To digest the emotions brought to surface by this encounter, before lunch there was another mono-community group. This meeting gave an opportunity to facilitators for debriefing the previous meeting and preparing the bi-community afternoon meetings. **Most participants and facilitators considered very positive this first mixed encounter as it prepared them for the bi-communal meetings later on that day.**

The afternoon was devoted to holding meetings between communities from different sides of the dividing line. The team agreed to give each facilitator **freedom to adapt to the needs of their communities**: for example, in some of them (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Serbia, Kosovo) there was a feeling that they could share very personal stories and that this would be beneficial, while in others (Georgia and the South Caucasus region and the two banks of the River Dniestr/Nistru) the moment was not ripe to do so. The Cypriot community also stated that since participants had not lived directly the worst consequences of conflict, the



day had to be used to start discussing ways to help young people move on.

The day finished with a **creative open space**. As participants were finishing their meetings, they met at the plenary room. They could choose from different options to release emotions and to reflect on the day



such as painting mandalas, hanging messages in a peace-tree, writing haikus or relaxation.

It was a long and very demanding day for the team and for participants, but at the same time it was highly valued. For many participants **it was the first time that they had the opportunity to share the traumatic events they had during conflict**; this was a very special moment in their lives, especially because it was the first time they had the opportunity to share it directly with the other side.

At the same time, for many participants it was the **first time that they heard a story about their conflict from “the other’s” perspective**. This had many deep effects, sometimes even contradictory: it created empathy, but at the same time there was a feeling of embarrassment about what people from their communities did. For some communities, especially those with less experience in confidence-building measures, it created some frustration that the conflict may be difficult to solve.

By the end of the day, the general mood was that **it had been a positive, life-changing experience**. As some participants put it, “this day was very much needed”. They learned from each other’s perspective and this created a lot of empathy in the group. They also shared that it gave them the opportunity to move-on and start thinking on working together. It is worth sharing a poem written by one of the participants from Kosovo:



Me and Peace

*I have lived in a world where the weather was so cold
I have eaten dry food, it was all I could cook.
I have seen the evilness because humans were careless.
But now I am the youth who has dreams
I am a human who has fears
Because I grew up thinking for peace.*

*I will become a man with family
I will become a person with identity
Because I want to cut off the non-humanity.*

*And I was in a Tunnel , where the light wasn't so
colorful
I couldn't feel nothing about you, because
I weren't there for you.*

*Now I am hoping for me and I am hoping for you
That one day we will get out of it through.*

*Now I am seeing a sunshine from the sun, which
Is on your line
I hope you can see too
Because now everything is blue.*



Day 5: Reconciliation and free time

Saturday 30 June

After a very demanding experience, participants deserved some rest and free time; yet, at the same time, there was a feeling in the team that it would be useful to have some activities to build on reconciliation and reconnect participants. For this, some short outdoor activities were organised in the morning.



After the free day participants met again for a boat trip on the Danube. As mentioned many times, all moments in the Camp are important and influence the group dynamics and the way to reaching objectives. Activities within the programme are essential, but also informal moments and leisure time. This dinner was a good example of this. Participants had a party on the boat, and this moment spent together created a lot of trust and was another building stone for the work towards the future they had to undergo on the following days.

Day 6: Human Rights and Peace Building

Sunday 1 July

This day started the third block of the Camp. Participants had already worked on conflict and communication, had undergone a Dialogue Day and were ready to start working on future peace-related initiatives.

Human Rights are a crucial element of confidence building and one of the cornerstones of Youth Peace Camp. For this it was important that participants understood Human Rights and Human Rights Education. Firstly, they shortly participated in a “Human Rights Bingo” from the Compass manual to start understanding Human Rights, and the rest of the morning was spent in specific thematic workshops on gender, discrimination, and bullying. The morning finished with a short presentation on HRE.



Since this year we wanted to focus more on follow-up, **the team agreed to give a special focus to the possible role of facilitators in supporting participants.** This decision was taken as the person most participants primarily may rely on when going back to their communities would be their facilitators. For this reason, the first session of the afternoon consisted of mono or bi-community meetings where facilitators explained their involvement of peace work in their countries.



The last session of the afternoon was devoted to help participants reflect on themselves as peacebuilders. Do they want to be peacebuilders? What were the tools they were lacking? What were the challenges they may face when going back? The team decided to add this reflective session as **Dialogue Day created some worries and frustration on the prospect of participants going back to their communities:** they were convinced of peace and cooperation with the other side, but most of their peers back in their communities wouldn't be thinking that way. What would then happen? Participants also conducted a SWOT⁴ analysis based on the question “Me as a peacebuilder?”

⁴ Strengths – Weaknesses – Opportunities - Threats



Day 7: Action!

Monday 2 July

Some participants mentioned they came full of judgements and they just disappeared
One of the facilitators after a reflection group

The first activity of the morning focused on showing participants different tools they have to support them in their follow-up actions. First, participants had an on-line presentation by Karen Palisser from the European Youth



Foundation that was followed by a lively exchange with questions and answers. This was followed by a work in different corners where participants could learn about different tools and opportunities that could support them while preparing and implementing their follow-up projects: available European funding and grants, the Youth Peace Ambassadors Network (YPAN), the National Training courses on HRE and opportunities and support by the Youth Department, with special regard to the publications of the EU-CoE Youth partnership.

The rest of the morning was focused in “harvesting” ideas for follow-up. Following the trend to work closely in mono-community groups (or bi-community where participants felt ready), the session focused in a **brainstorming in mono-communities for follow-up ideas**. As we explained participants, we strived for simple actions, that do not necessarily involve budget or a great deal in planning and logistics. The team thought that it was better to start with simple things that could grow progressively.

Based on the needs expressed by participants on the previous day and some ideas by facilitators, the first session in the afternoon was devoted to tools for follow-up. There were several parallel workshops on campaign planning, communication or project management.





After this session, participants returned to their mono-community groups⁵ to continue working on ideas for follow-up. For this session, facilitators lead a workshop where participants could travel from general ideas to specific actions.

Day 8: Follow-Up, Evaluation and Closing

Tuesday 3 July

The last day started with an inspiring presentation by Gizem Kilinc, member of the Advisory Council on Youth (AC) and Leading Coordinator at UNOY Peacebuilders. She gave a hint of the work at the AC and how this body moves forward the youth agenda and mainstreams youth in the different Council of Europe's working areas.

Gizem also gave an introduction into the UN Security Council Resolution 2250 on Youth Peace and Security. She explained the process of promotion, lobbying and adoption of the Resolution and encouraged participants to fight for their ideas and not to give up. The rest of the morning was devoted to finish participants' follow-up actions and to present them to plenary. A panel formed by Rui Gomes, Head of the Education and Training Division and Gizem gave some feed-back on ideas, especially by encouraging participants and giving some hints on possible tools and opportunities the Council of Europe and UNOY could offer them.

Youth Peace Camp helped me to grow as a human being.
A participant after Dialogue Day

During the afternoon, we conducted the evaluation of the Camp. At first, participants did a written evaluation that was followed by an on-site evaluation.⁶ The Camp was closed by Antje Rothmund, Director of the Youth Department, and Gizem Kilinc, from the Advisory Council on Youth. During the evening, all participants gathered around a Barbecue dinner, offered by the European Youth Centre.



⁵ With the exception of Cyprus, Armenia/Azerbaijan and Kosovo (Albanian and Serbian communities), who decided to work in bi-community).

⁶ See Appendix 5 for a summary of the evaluation results



6. Methodologies



The Youth Peace Camp is a **highly challenging activity, both for participants and for the educational team**: the subject of the activity is extremely emotional and can be hard to tackle for many participants as they may have to come back to painful memories or experiences. The length of the activity (8 days) and the number of

participants (61) add to the challenges faced. Accordingly, methodologies had to adapt to this context. The Youth Peace Camp was organised following **non-formal methodologies and having Human Rights Education as its main guiding principle**. The methodologies used aimed at creating a safe space that facilitates:

- Understanding and reflecting around concepts of conflict transformation, peace, dialogue and communication;
- Building on participants curiosity and promoting a mutual exchange, especially when confronting young people from communities at conflict;
- Self-reflecting on the ways that conflict shapes our understanding on reality and promotes an inner change that reinforce participants' commitment with peace.

In order to reach these objectives, the educational team was more than aware that the official programme was as important as any interaction happening during informal moments. At the same time, the programme and methodologies had to be flexible enough as to adapt constantly to the changing needs of participants following the evolution of the activity.

“In this Youth Peace Camp, I became a better person.”
Valeria, from Moldova

Concerning the working methods inside the team, after the day, and whilst participants and facilitators were having reflection groups, the Educational advisor and senior trainer had a first meeting to quickly evaluate the day and pinpoint the main elements that need to be talked at the daily evaluation meeting.



After the sessions and reflection groups, all the educational team would have an evaluation meeting before dinner. After dinner, only those facilitators leading sessions during the next day (as well as the Chair of the Day) would meet, leaving the rest free to mingle with participants and recover some energy.⁷

For this reason, **we made sure that at least 4 or 5 facilitators were free every evening and that each facilitator had at least 2 or 3 free evenings.** We devised a system through which facilitators would have free moments each day. The reason behind this was that they could have time to prepare their different sessions and manage their energy levels. Due to the exposure to a high level of stress and emotions facilitators and participants, these free moments would also help facilitators to deal with any emergency issues.



All sessions were co-facilitated by one or two facilitators and the educational advisor or senior trainer. Besides team members leading the session, the Chair of the day, and the facilitators/trainer developing the following session also were present in the session.

In the first day, there was an issue on the participation of other team members. The team decided (based also on feed-back by participants) that facilitators who were free in general could *participate in the activity or leave the room* but could not stay in the room doing other things or simply observing. We finally made sure that the Chair of the day never had to develop an activity during the day.

In a trend that has repeated over the last years, during reflection groups participants expressed that they required more theoretical inputs (both on the conflicts that were represented and on the content). The Youth Peace Camp is not a formal training on international relations and conflict management, so the educational team preferred to focus on the holistic development of competences, awareness raising and self-reflection. However, we partially answered to this request by adding some 15 – 20 minutes presentations on some empathic elements in the programme, e.g. on conflict, identities, human rights, emotions, communication or stereotypes. These interventions were highly

⁷ With such a big group and a complex programme, managing the team of facilitators was one of the issue we took more care of. For more information on this, see the section on “challenges”.



valued by participants and usually helped them to process the learning experiences gained through the preceding workshops.

Some other specific methodologies we used in this edition were Peace Circles (during Dialogue Day), mindfulness (with some breathing and meditation exercises as a start for some activities on identity) and Neuro-Linguistic Programming (linked to activities to work on empathy).





7. Challenges

The overall evaluation of the Camp was positive, both by participants and facilitators. However, as in any other non-formal educational activity, there were some challenging moments that the team had to manage. The following is a review of the main challenges the team encountered during the Camp, and it can be also considered by future educational teams.

Balance between trainers and facilitators

One of the main worries we had in mind when developing the activity was to reach a good balance between the tasks performed by facilitators and by the educational advisor and the senior trainer. The level of experience within the team of facilitators was very varied: some of them had been in YPC for several years and are active trainers at local level whilst others had little or no facilitation experience.

We wanted to avoid that trainers had a stronger role and more experienced facilitators would feel useless or bored. At the same time, we didn't want less experienced facilitators to find themselves in difficult situations that wouldn't know how to manage. Finally, we wanted to set up a system by which facilitators would have free time to spend with participants without this having a negative influence in the team dynamics or activity development.



The answer to this came from the experience that was tested last year by some members in the team: each session would be developed by one trainer (senior trainer or educational advisor) plus one or two facilitators. Sessions would then be co-facilitated by the members in the educational team that developed the activity, with the facilitator having a leading role depending on his/her experience and level of comfort.

In any case, **from the beginning it was made clear that we were a team and that we would be there to support each other.** At the same time, we made clear the need for open and honest communication, so that if any facilitator was feeling that he/she could be more involved, it would mention this issue in the team meetings.

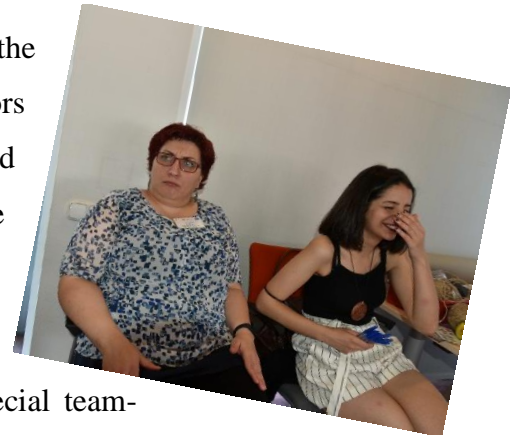


Team-building and new trainers

For the team it was clear that **a key to a successful Youth Peace Camp is a strong and cohesive team, as well as an open communication.** That is the reason why building team spirit was one of the main objectives during both preparatory meetings. At the same time, it was important that all team members felt part of the activity and had the feeling that Camp was helping them grow as trainers.

One of the worries we had - and that could jeopardise the team cohesion - was the fact that two of the facilitators were not present at the preparatory meeting in March and that two more were not selected until a week before the activity.

The way the team found to manage this challenge was to have a strong on-line communication and to plan a special team-building activity in June. Special praise has to be given (as simple as it may sound) to the organization of a picnic outside the centre before the start of the Camp. This activity had a transformational effect for the team and was crucial in building trust.



Number of participants

The Youth Peace Camp is one of the biggest activities in number of participants managed by the Youth Department. This year we had more than 50 participants and a team of 11 members. Sometimes, managing such a large group was challenging, both during sessions and at informal moments. Besides the fact that many facilitators had to be involved to work with small groups, any problem was magnified by the large number of participants.



Emotions and fatigue

Non-formal educational activities tend to be intense, as participants are very active and some activities can go deep into participants' past experiences and emotions. Youth Peace Camp is not different on this and probably it goes some steps further.



Besides the fact it's a long activity, participants explore very deep emotions; in some cases this was the first time participants talk publicly about issues relating to conflict that had been banned from family conversations since its childhood. Managing the level of stress and strong emotions that this creates was challenging at different moments during the Youth Peace Camp, especially around Dialogue Day.



The challenge is not only for participants but also for facilitators. Even if they take a more neutral role, they're still part of the conflict communities and some may have undergone difficult moments. This is an important issue to take into account during the Youth Peace Camp, but that needs to find a place during the preparatory meetings.

The answer of the team was to keep at all times an open-communication and never leave issues “under the carpet”. Besides, we always organised ourselves to allow that at least some team members were free every day (i.e. not implementing any specific activity with participants) and were also free during the evening.

Participants dynamics: turning threats into opportunities.

As an example of the former, on the free day's evening, there was a party in the disco room. At some point, a couple of male participants started to act in an inappropriate manner with female participants. Some team members were present and could manage the issue directly there. Unfortunately, the situation continued late at night when team members were not there, and it involved a male participant knocking in the door of a female's participant room.

This was widely known by the next morning and, as often happens in these situations, **facts were magnified and distorted**. Potentially, this could have created a lot of unrest. The team decided to manage it openly and during the reflection group facilitators had a talk on sexual harassment and respecting personal space. We also used this opportunity to reflect on the basic rules of respect in this type of activities.



A similar situation took place in the last days, when news spread of a military clash between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The decision was taken to deal with this issue openly and the Armenian and Azeri facilitators had an informal joint meeting with their participants to tackle the issue.

Dialogue Day

During the preparatory meeting this year it was agreed to work as deeply as possible with participants. In some activities dealing with empathy and identity, participants worked deeply on conflicts or situations affecting their lives. This work continued on Dialogue Day, when participants were asked to share their personal story with conflict.

“This day was absolutely necessary.”

A participant in the reflection group after Dialogue Day

Managing the day and the emotions that were released was very hard and challenging for participants and for the team. **However, the risk was worth** as the activity provoked some changes in participants and paved the way for a more trustful and empathic communication between participants.



In a way, this steams from last year recommendation, when the team and some participants pointed the need for “more Dialogue Day”. In a continuation of Dialogue Day, the team strived for more bi-communal communication at come activities such as preparing the follow-up actions.

Organizing party time

Youth Peace Camp is a highly stressful activity for participants and for the educational time and the risk may somehow be more evident. Additionally, compared to other activities at the EYCs there are proportionately more younger participants (aged 18-25) for whom this is oftentimes a first international youth activity experience – something which makes the context to resemble a youth exchange rather than a study session or training.



Consequently, during free time, and especially at parties in the evenings, emotions are released resulting in a higher probability of problematic behaviour.

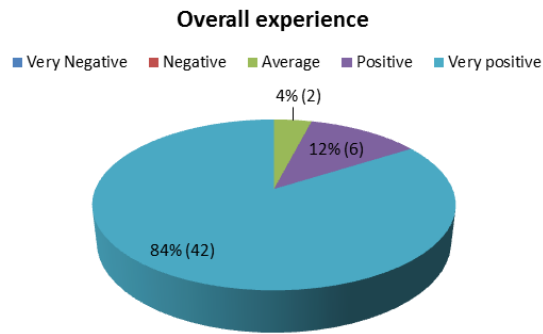
Although it is almost impossible to fully prevent such situations, there were a some suggestions by the team that may be considered:

- Forbid or limit alcohol /talk about responsible consumption at the beginning
- Make sure to remind the group on the rules and principles on living & working together
- As a part of the programme on ICL, touch upon the issue of different individual and cultural attitudes towards interpersonal relations, respect between genders especially in leisure time setting at EYCs
- Ensure the presence of team members when there's social activities, especially in the evenings and raise the awareness of team members about their responsibility in warning participants or informing the senior trainers or security in case of inappropriate behaviour



8. Participants evaluation

The evaluation of participants was conducted on a daily level in reflection groups as well as written and group evaluation organized the last day. In general terms, participants were greatly satisfied with the Camp. For a vast majority, the activity was “Positive” or “Very positive”.



To a great extent, participants considered that the objectives were fulfilled, especially when it came to sharing personal experiences and motivating participants to act as multipliers.

<i>(1 = not achieved at all, 5 = fully achieved)</i>	Average
To develop awareness and basic competences (knowledge, skills and attitudes) of participants in human rights education, conflict transformation, intercultural learning and dialogue, including a critical understanding of personal and collective identities and their role in conflicts	4,5
To enable participants to share personal experiences of conflict and violence and coping strategies in a positive and safe atmosphere of living and learning together	4,74
To motivate and support participants in their role as multipliers and peer leaders in peace-building activities with young people encouraging them to implement follow-up initiatives	4,6
To promote and share existing youth work practices and experiences of young people working on dialogue and conflict transformation in their home communities	4,46
To strengthen the role of the Council of Europe, in particular through its Youth for Democracy programme, in its efforts towards strengthening youth work in the field of conflict transformation, social cohesion and intercultural dialogue and in the implementation of the approaches of the UN Security Council Resolution 2250 (2015) on Youth, Peace and Security.	4,52

The detailed results of the written evaluation are to be found in the Appendix of the current report.



CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS



The recommendations listed here take into account the experience of the educational team from the 2018 edition of the Youth Peace Camp. Moreover, since the Camp will take place every two years, we want to use this opportunity to give some ideas that may be useful in such a format.

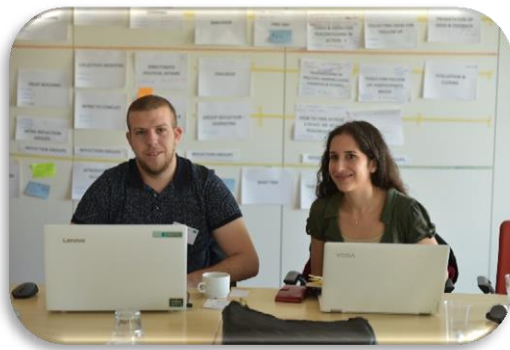
1. Team-management

It has been mentioned in different places the importance of promoting a strong team spirit. Having a united, motivated and strong team was crucial to navigate through difficult moments that happened during the Camp. Besides an open and honest communication was key to tackle potential conflicts in the team and prevent them before they could escalate.

We want to insist once more on the importance of timely setting up of the team and a 3-days preparatory meeting latest 5-6 months in advance and on including team-building activities in the programme of preparatory meetings and “caring” for team and trust building also during the activity itself. The second preparatory meeting right before the camp preferably should take two full working days.

2. Profile of facilitators

The Youth Peace Camp 2018 saw difficult moments in the communication between participants from communities in conflict. But any challenges were smoothly surpassed thanks to the cooperative and trustful relationship between facilitators from both communities. This year we experienced this especially in case of Armenia / Azerbaijan and Kosovo (Albanian and Serbian participants).



Therefore, when selecting facilitators, it is worth looking not only at his/her profile, but at the relationship with facilitator from the other community. Since the programme will take place every two years and there will be more time for preparation, it can even be considered to send a call not only for individual facilitators but from



couples (or trios in the case of Georgia) of facilitators, one from each community – or at least provide space in the application to indicate and explain preferences of working with other specific applicant facilitators.

3. Balance in the team

Another key for the success of the Youth Peace Camp was the balance in the team, both in terms of training experience and previous experience with the Youth Peace Camp. Of all members of the team, 11 had a previous experience with the Camp⁸, two as former trainers, four as former facilitators and six as former participants.

It's recommended that this balance between former facilitators and participants is kept: Former facilitators have an experience from which they can build on; and former participants gave the rest of the team a window into the participants' experience. At the same time, seeing former participants in the educational team was a motivation and an incentive for other participants.

4. Profile of participants



One of the decisions taken during the first preparatory meeting was to focus on participants that had been directly affected by conflict. Addressing this type of participants can be more challenging, as they may have strong emotions and hesitations when it comes to talking to “the other side”. However, it proved to be risk that is worth taking as the team had the feeling that “new peacebuilders” were created. Also, this year we experienced that this type of participants is very committed to work for peace when going back to their communities.

At the same time - balance is one of the key words of the camp - it's important to have also at least a few participants in each community group with previous experience in peace

⁸ Actually, all of them with the only exception of facilitators from the two banks of the River Dniester/Nistru, as this year was the first in which these two communities took part.



work that can help people from their community take the first steps in communicating with people from a different community.

5. Hot vs frozen conflicts

All conflicts are unique. This year, conflicts represented at the Youth Peace Camp varied a lot in terms of intensity: from conflicts that saw recent military conflicts (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kosovo, Tskhinvali) to others that had been “frozen” for decades (such as Cyprus). Also, the conflicts represented ranged from those with more intense peace-efforts by the international community to others where efforts are weaker.

This variety was very useful for participants from the different communities: for participants living in a relatively quiet area, it was a demonstration of what could happen and an appreciation of peace. For others from more intense conflicts, seeing participants from different sides (or that can act even as a single community as in Cyprus) that could live and learn together was an incentive.

For all of them, it was very useful to see that their conflict and their personal situation – even if challenging - is maybe not the worst, in the words of a facilitator.

6. Provide opportunities for more bi-communal communication

Last year, one of the recommendations mentioned in the report was to provide for more space for Dialogue Day. This was also a feeling of team members that had been part of the Youth Peace Camp in previous years. To give more space for Dialogue Day, the team agreed the following:

- Dive deeper into the issues explored during Dialogue Day: for those communities who were ready for that, this year the discussion was not about how conflict affects young people, but about sharing their personal stories on how conflict hit them and their families.
- Provide more opportunities for bi-communal meetings: At several moments in the programme, for example when discussing follow-up actions, there was a space for



more dialogue between communities at conflict. Facilitators also conducted some bi-communal meetings at informal moments.

The result was very positive, and the level of trust, empathy and confidence greatly increased between participants from communities in conflict. The team believed that this increase in confidence and trust also had a positive effect for the overall dynamics in the team of participants.

As a conclusion, we recommend that this space in the programme for deeper and more bi-communal dialogue is maintained and even increased if the educational team feels ready.

Adding to that, the introduction of an outdoor reconciliation session in the following morning to wrap up and properly close the Dialogue day proved to be efficient and important. Even if it takes some time from the free day, it also possibly contributes to stronger group cohesion as it makes space for a transition from the intense Dialogue Day to free time and does not fully allow the group to disconnect right in the middle of the Camp. In previous camps the experience was that a full free day can ruin group dynamics which can be harmful for the second part of the Camp when energies levels tend to anyway get lower.

7. Structured follow up

One of the important issues this year was to focus on follow-up actions. As we explained participants, follow-up was not necessarily about organising big projects but about ensuring simple, small multiplying actions: visits to schools to talk about the Youth Peace Camp, bi-communal dialogues over a coffee, contacting the media.

“Overall, I feel that now a lot of the participants do believe in the power of small steps and they are “pragmatically optimistic” for a better future.”

Anush Petrosyan, Armenian facilitator

When discussing about follow-up, the team agreed that facilitators would be the persons that participants would be taking as an example; and they would be relying on him/her when trying to organise any type of action. So, **we decided to give facilitators a lot of prominence**. That is why we organised a session to put the focus on the actions facilitators



where doing in their countries and most of the sessions on follow-up evolved around mono-community groups.

The result has been quite successful, as there are already a number of follow-up actions that have been organised (and some of them implemented) by participants.

We recommend **designing some type of structured follow-up** that can go beyond the days of the Camp residential seminar. We believe that the organisation of the Youth Peace Camp every two years it's an opportunity for such kind of structured follow-up. Some ideas that the team had in relation to follow-up are:

- Create an active Youth Peace Camp Alumni where follow-up actions can be submitted, and opportunities can be offered. For instance, a YPC “label” could be created for follow-up activities and to facilitate contacts with local authorities.
- Extend the contracts of facilitators for several months to support and mentor participants in their follow-up actions.
- Organise a second short residential seminar where participants could showcase their follow-up actions and get extra training in specific tools on project management.
- Facilitate contacts with local/national authorities so that participants can showcase their actions in front of them and attract media attention. This would not be only to motivate them but could be very helpful also to motivate and locate future peace-builders. Council of Europe field offices can be taken onboard this effort.

Also, it was mentioned that the Directorate of Political Affairs can have a pivotal role for supporting follow-up actions.

8. Outreach & visibility

The Youth Peace Camp is probably one of the most interesting activities organised by the Council of Europe. Not only by the Youth Department, but by the whole institution. Thus, **it deserves to have much more visibility inside and outside the Council of Europe.**

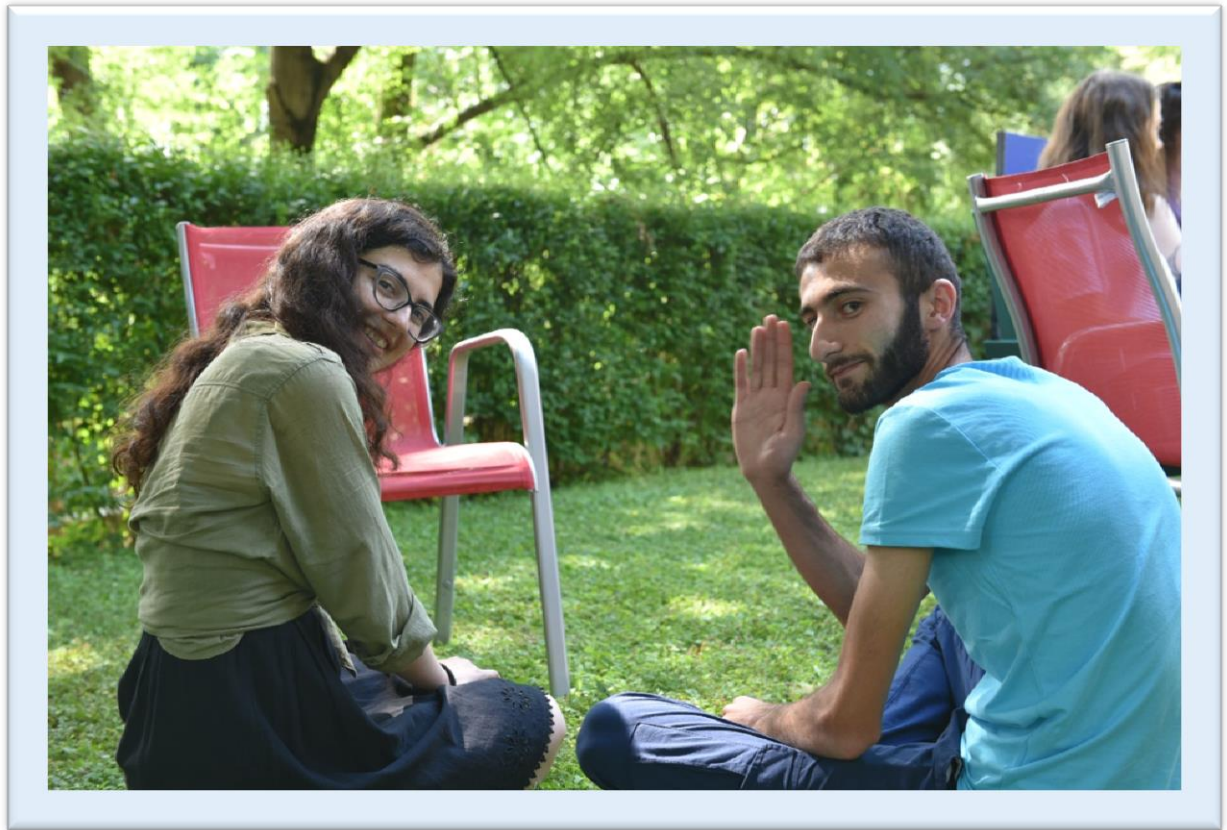


This may be one of the issues to discuss when organising future Camps. For example, the educational team, together with the staff of the Youth Department can contact the Press Department to plan internal and external actions to “explain” the Camp. Facilitators could also actively promote the Camp in their local communities before and after the Camp. Again, we believe that organising the Youth Peace Camp every two years can be an opportunity to further visibility for this project.

Indirectly related, this year we tried to organise a motivational talk by a well-known peacebuilder. Some of the names on the table were the Pakistani activist Malala, the international mediators John-Paul Lederach and Johan Galtung and the Galtung Institute or the activist Srdja Popovic. Unfortunately partly because of non-availability and partly because of the relatively short time to arrange attendance, this year the team failed to invite such a speaker. However, this remains something relevant for future Youth Peace Camps the main objective would be to motivate participants but **associating a well-known activist or person to the Youth Peace Camp could contribute to give this activity the public coverage it deserves**. This would be managed in a similar way as the UNICEF Ambassadors for some of its programmes or the “Patrons” that UNESCO uses for some activities. Additionally, the presence of such role models by all means would provide a life-changing experience and motivation for the participants present. It is highly recommendable though to contact such invitees as soon as possible when the dates are clear, even before the preparatory meeting.

As an advantage, we believe that this extra attention may contribute to attract funding and contacts to organise follow-up actions.

Finally, another feature to take into account for future editions of the camp is to design and plan an on-line campaign to promote the Camp among young people from the regions participating in the Camp.





APPENDICES



APPENDIX 1: PROGRAMME

Monday, 25 June 2018 - Welcome

Arrival of participants

16:00 Registration of participants and administrative formalities

19:00 *Dinner*

20:30 Informal welcome evening

Welcome by *Gordana Berjan*, Executive Director of the European Youth Centre Budapest, Council of Europe

Tuesday, 26 June 2018 – Introductions

09:30 Welcome and opening of the Youth Peace Camp 2018

Welcome speech by *Matjaz Gruden*, Director of Democratic Citizenship and Participation, Council of Europe

Essential of the programme and methodology of the Youth Peace Camp

“The Youth Peace Camp in the Youth for Democracy programme” *Rui Gomes*, Head of Education and Training Division of the Youth Department, Council of Europe

Introduction to the programme, framework and methodology

11:30 Break

12:00 Team building: Getting to know each other

13:00 *Lunch*

14:30 Team building: Developing communication and trust

16:00 Break

16:30 Team building: Developing communication and trust

18:00 Introduction to reflection groups

19:00 *Dinner*

20:30 Evening programme: social evening

Wednesday, 27 June 2018– Identities

09:15 Presentation of the day’s programme and warming up

09:30 Understanding empathy and emotions

11:00 Break

11:30 Exploring individual identities

13:00 *Lunch*



14:30 Exploring collective identities

16:00 *Break*

16:30 Introduction to conflict (*theory*)

18:30 Reflection groups

19:00 *Dinner*

20:30 Evening programme: Introduction possibility for self-organised leisure time activities by participants

Thursday, 28 June 2018 – Conflict and communication

09:15 Presentation of the day's programme and warming up

9:30 Intercultural learning

11:00 Break

11:30 Intercultural learning (*continued*)

13:00 *Lunch*

14:30 Peacebuilding and the Council of Europe

Presentation by *Albina Ovcearenco* on the work of the Directorate of Political Affairs, Council of Europe

16:30 Break

17:00 Interpersonal communication and non-violent communication

18:30 Reflection groups

19:00 *Dinner*

Friday, 29 June 2018– Dialogue

09:15 Presentation of the day's programme and warming up

09:45 Communication and dialogue

11:00 Break

11:30 Dialogue

13:00 *Lunch*

14:30 Dialogue (*continued*)

15:15 Short break

15:30 Dialogue (*continued*)

16:00 *Break*

16:30 Dialogue (*concl.*)

18:00 Debriefing of the Dialogue sessions: Space for group reflection
Reflection groups



19:00 *Dinner*

20:30 Self-organised social time at EYCB

Saturday, 30 June 2018 – **Reconciliation and free time**

10:00 Conclusions after the Dialogue Day

Reconciliation and Healing

13:00 *Self-organised lunch*

14:00 Free time

19:00 *Boat trip and dinner*

Sunday, 1 July 2018 – **Human Rights and Peacebuilding**

09:15 Presentation of the day's programme and warming up

09:30 Human Rights and Human Rights Education as a framework for peacebuilding

11:00 Break

11:30 Tools and ideas for peacebuilding in action

13:00 *Lunch*

14.30 Peacebuilding in practice - sharing good examples and personal stories

16:00 Break

16:30 How to take action for peace: Me as a peacebuilder

18:00 Reflection groups

19.00 *Dinner*

20:30 Evening programme – Take action for peace

Monday, 2 July 2018 – **Action day**

09:15 Presentation of the day's programme and warming up

09:30 How to take action for peace? (*possibly external speaker*)

11:00 Break

11:30 Introduction to opportunities by the Council of Europe, including the European Youth Foundation – online meeting with *Karen Palisser*, EYF

13:00 *Lunch*

14:30 Collecting ideas for follow up (*individual and group work*)

16:00 Break

16.30 How to take action – criteria, directions and methodologies for follow up

19:00 *Dinner*



Tuesday, 3 July 2018 - Follow-up, Evaluation and Closing

- 09:15 Presentation of the day's programme and warming up
- 09:30 Presentation on using the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 2250 on Youth, Peace and Security by *Gizem Kilinc*, Leading coordinator, UNOY Peacebuilders/Member of the Advisory Council on Youth, Council of Europe
- Planning follow up
- 11:00 Break
- 11:30 Presentation of follow up ideas and feedback - expressing commitments and needs towards Youth Department
- 13:00 *Lunch*
- 14:30 Evaluation of the camp
- 15:15 Official closing of the Youth Peace Camp, with
Gizem Kilinc, Leading coordinator, UNOY Peacebuilders/Member of the Advisory Council on Youth, Council of Europe
Antje Rothmund, Head of the Youth Department
- 16:00 Free time
- 20:00 *Barbecue Dinner and farewell party*

Wednesday, 4 July 2018

Departure of Participants



APPENDIX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

1. Participants

Surname	First name	Organisation
Ahmeti	Liridon	N/A
Aiba	Astanda	N/A
Amyan	Sonya	N/A
Artemi	Tonia-Flery	N/A
Athienitis	Katerina	N/A
Batusha	Andi	Local Youth Action Council
Behramaj	Gentrit	Gaia Kosovo
Bugche	Bozkurt	N/A
Cavusoglu	Sevgi	N/A
Chkadua	Temyr	N/A
Đorđević	Petar	Association of youth "Young Active Gracanica" and Sports Club Hogosha Dojo
Gasparyan	Hakob	N/A
Gevorgyan	Khanum	N/A
Hakobyan	Seda	N/A
Hamzali	Eldar	N/A
Hasanova	Nuriyya	Young European Ambassadors Network
Hashani	Agon	INPO
Huseynova	Afag	"Hadaf" LLC
Ilievska	Jelena	N/A
Iluridze	Tamar	Creative Development Center
Jahangirli	Nurlan	Oikos Baku
Janjalashvili	Giorgi	Youth for Human Rights



Kavtaradze	Mariami	American Corner Rustavi
Kharebova	Lana	N/A
Khvichia	Elizbar	Progressive Space
Kordzaia	Sopiko	N/A
Kounoupi	Antigoni	N/A
Mammadov	Rahil	European Law Students' Association (ELSA) Azerbaijan
Melaia	Noel	N/A
Melashvili	George	Europe-Georgia Institute
Morina	Diana	Peer Educators Network - PEN TOKA - Kosovar Organization for Talent and Education
Mughdusyan	Anahit	N/A
Nabizade	Sevinj	National Assembly of Youth Organizations of Republic of Azerbaijan- NAYORA
Patsia	Maria	N/A
Petrosyan	Christina	N/A
Radivojevic	Danica	N/A
Sabotic	Amra	Forum for creative action - FOKRED
Sanakoeva	Salimat	N/A
Sargu	Roman	N/A
Sceglov	Alexandru	N/A
Semi	Tula	N/A
Sijarina	Liridona	The Ideas Partnership
Stojanović	Jovana	Akwedukt in Poland, Vega youth in Serbia
Ubozhenko	Victoria	N/A
Valieva	Diana	N/A
Vishibaeva	Valeria	N/A
Vouba	Almas	N/A



Vudali	Tufan	N/A
Zivkovic	Stefan	Young Active Gracanica (MAG) and Corner for Development, Innovation and Creativity (KRIK)

2. Educational team

Surname	Fist name	Role
László	Milutinovits	Educational Advisor, Education and Training Division, Youth Department
Tena Pera	Ramon	Senior trainer/consultant
Abdullayev	Namiq	Facilitator
Akhba	Alisa	Facilitator
Aliu	Vigan	Facilitator
Bondarenko	Vladimir	Facilitator
Davitelashvili	Gvantsa	Facilitator
Berk Doluay	Burak	Facilitator
Kelekhsaeva	Inga	Facilitator
Petrosyan	Anush	Facilitator
Radosavljevic	Nevena	Facilitator
Sea	Chrisie	Facilitator
Turcan	Mariana	Facilitator

3. Council of Europe

Surname	Fist name	Role
Gruden	Matjaz	Director of Democratic Participation
Rothemund	Antje	Head of Youth Department
Kilinc	Gizem	Advisory Council on youth/UNOY Peacebuilders
Berjan	Gordana	Executive Director, European Youth Centre Budapest
Gomes	Rui	Head of Education and Training Division



Ovcearenco	Albina	Political Advisor, Directorate of Political Affairs
Palisser	Karen	European Youth Foundation, Administrator
Milutinovits	László	Educational advisor
Molnár	Zsuzsanna	Programme assistant



APPENDIX 3: DIALOGUE DAY BROCHURE

Youth Peace Camp – Guide to the Programme of the Dialogue Day

*"There was a long day
When we've said a lot of "hey"
I have an idea, an insight, a light
To share, to speak, to try.
There was a long discussion
Full of words and compassion.
We revealed, we cried, we laughed
In order to find at last our path.
And now I can say
That there is no need for hate
We are all different and the same
But we all are people, we play one game."*

*Poem written at the end
of the Dialogue day
by a participant in 2016*



Youth Peace Camp – Guide to the Programme of the Dialogue Day

Your guide to the Dialogue Day



"I finally had the chance to ask"

One of the messages left by participants after the day





Youth Peace Camp – Guide to the Programme of the Dialogue Day

Why a Dialogue Day?

There are usually a lot of anticipations for the “dialogue day” and these sessions are remembered as the most valuable by participants. The programme of the first three days lays down the foundations for a dialogue process in which participants have the opportunity to share their personal experiences of the conflict with other participants.

The “dialogue day” is constructed around a progressive process that includes different stages: **exploring the concept of dialogue, sharing personal stories** in mixed-community groups, in mono-community groups and in bi-community groups (involving participants from both sides of a conflict). Each group is supported by facilitators – who work in pairs with the bi-community groups.

“Stories engulf both our hearts and minds. We talk a lot about stories in mediation and conflict transformation. We believe in the need to tell and hear stories. We work to create a space that honours the experience shared in people’s stories”.

(John Paul Lederach, Reconcile, Herald Press, 2014)

We will be working in a variety of settings during the day. This will include meeting in mono-/bi-and mixed community groups as well as the use of different rooms in the Youth Centre, so it is important that you always keep an eye on facilitators. Please follow instructions and make sure that you always know where to go and when.



Youth Peace Camp – Guide to the Programme of the Dialogue Day

Schedule of the daily programme:

09:15 - Intro: Dialogue VS Confrontation

10:05 – Mono-community group meeting

*10:40 – Mixed-community group
meeting*

11:30 – Break

12:00 – Mono-community group meeting

12:35 – Lunch

14:00 – Bi-community group meeting

16:30 – Open Space

18:00 - Reflection





APPENDIX 4: FOLLOW UP SHEET



Youth Peace Camp 2018 European Youth Centre Budapest

Please complete the following questions

Name of the action:

Aims and objectives of the action:

Why is your action needed? To what needs of your target group will it respond?.

What are the expected results of the action?

Increased the number of people with willingness to learn and participate in YPC.

Your name and email:

Finding Resources:

Action timeline:

Your action timeline should include detailed schedule of your steps to achieve your goal.

This will also serve as a guide for you to follow as a team.

Deadline	Action



APPENDIX 5: LIST OF IDEAS FOR FOLLOW UP INITIATIVES BY PARTICIPANTS

ArAz Summer Peace Camp (Khanum Gevorgyan, Armenia)

The ArAz Summer Peace Camp provides an opportunity for young men and women from Armenia and Azerbaijan to meet the people that live across the border. By being in touch with each other, the participants can overcome the political division that separates them, to focus more on the similarities that bring them together.

Together for peace (Seda Hakobyan, Armenia)

What better way to know each other than to work together? The Together for peace project brings youth from both Armenia and Azerbaijan to cooperate in helping people who live in precarious situations. The participants can expect to develop healthy and friendly relationships, while taking part in humanitarian projects.

Small community meetings (Eldar Hamzali, Azerbaijan)

Every person's participation can make a difference. The Community meetings project brings groups of 10 persons from Azerbaijan to talk together about their experience of conflict and war, so that their participation is valorised. By sharing their points of view, we can expect them to acknowledge that their opinions do matter.

Humans Rights for All (Sevinj Nabizade, Azerbaijan)

Young people need help to understand, apply and promote Human Rights. This training aims at making Azeri youth more resourceful and more skilled in recognizing and facing cases of discrimination. By empowering them, they will also be better at empowering others.

Traditional music video (Tonia-Flery Artemi, Cyprus)

This project aims at making visible how culturally connected all people of Cyprus are. By using traditional music and songs, people can feel better connected to each other, and discover how similar they are.

Peace building and Human Rights Workshops (Sukhumi, Abkhaz participants – contact: Alisa Akhba)

These two-days workshops introduce Sukhumi youth to Human Rights and to the work of the Council of Europe. By building on the achievements of the Youth Peace Camp, these workshops go a step further by raising awareness of Human Rights issues directly in the community.

Student Peace Conference (George Melashvili, Georgia)

This conference aims at mainstreaming the topic of peace in university, by promoting peace theory and peace studies, in order to help people in Georgia who are affected by wars.

Bridging the differences (Liridona Sijarina, Kosovo)

The Bridging the differences project creates an opportunity for young people from Kosovo to overcome cultural and ethnical barriers. By offering a range of cooperative activities, such as



mural painting, hikes and other community based projects, young people can build better relationships with people from different ethnical backgrounds.

Rule of Law for Peace (Giorgi Janjalashvili, Georgia)

This project aims at promoting the rule of law in Georgia. As a foundation for peace, the rule of law needs to be better understood and accepted. To achieve this goal, the strategy is to organize in the Tsibili State University a competition of essays about the rule of law and piece building.

Gali-Zugdidi bridge (Elizbar Khvichia, Georgia)

It is increasingly difficult for people from Gali and Zugdidi to get together, even for relatives. To allow people to reach each other, this project offers to create a safe space where people can meet and work. By intensifying the relationships between the two cities, peace building projects may take root and grow.

Kids for Peace (Mariam Kavtaradze, Georgia)

Kids for Peace is a set of activities intended for children in Rustavi, Georgia, who have an “Internally Displaced Persons” background. They will create posters, pictures and videos, and engage with the local community to share about the meaning of peace.

Peaceful Games (Tako Iluridze, Georgia)

This game involves children, among the group of “Internally Displaced Persons” in Georgia, into a simulation that gives them the role of a decision maker. That way, they can broaden their points of view, develop empathy and communication skills, and an experience in conflict resolution.

Exploring our schools (Alexandru Scegllov, Moldova)

In Moldova, there is a need for people of different ethnical background to meet and learn from each other. This project aims at bringing students together by creating safe spaces, organizing visits, and offering workshops about Human Rights, to foster cooperation and mutual understanding.

“Your ecology –is you” - Cleaning Nistru River (Roman Sargu, Moldova)

“Your ecology-is you” is a series of events where people living around the Nistru River banks gather to take care together of their natural environment. In addition to make the river clean and beautiful again, the participants can meet with people of different ethnicities and build peaceful relationships.

Unity in Diversity Decathlon (Valeria Novic, Moldova)

The Unity in Diversity Decathlon is a 3-days sport event that brings together the students of 30 schools from both sides of the Nistru River. It creates a safe space where young people can meet and cooperate to learn about a healthy lifestyle and intercultural collaboration.

We all are human beings (Afag Huseynova, Azerbaijan)

This project brings school kids from Azerbaijan to work together on theatre projects. Through cooperation and collaboration, children can learn to live better together, which in turn leads to a diminution of violence among peers.



Blog article (Tonia-Flery Artemi, Cyprus)

To raise awareness about education for peace, this project intends to publish on Internet the results of the Youth Peace Camp. By showing pictures of the activities, inspirational quotes and contact information of the Cypriots participants, it aims at sharing enthusiasm for future activities related to Human Rights.

A broken toy fallacy (Nurlan Jahangirli, Azerbaijan)

The “A broken toy fallacy” is a comparative research project. By giving a phenomenological description of conflict and of peacebuilding, we can understand better the ideas that shape our world – and that can also help us transform it.

Know your rights - Summer Camp for Young Peace Builders (Inga Kelekhsaeva, Victoria Ubozhenko, Diana Valieva – Tskhinvali)

This Summer Camp for Young Peace Builders aims at strengthening the community in Tskhinvali by creating competence for peace and rising awareness of Human Rights. Through human rights education, it is possible to empower the youth and to build a better community.

Step for Peace (Sonya Amyan, Armenia)

Step for Peace is a 3-days program, to be implemented in primary and secondary schools. Using Compasito, it aims at empowering children by giving them the means to understand others and to act in the world in accordance with Human Rights.

Training about Conflicts and their Origins (Hakob Gasparyan, Armenia)

This training will be given in Yerevan. It aims at sharing knowledge about the origins of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan. But the scope of the study is not limited to this one conflict: it embraces all kinds of conflicts, and shares strategies for conflict resolution. The training could be broadcasted to reach a wider audience.

“Dreams for Peace” exhibition (Anahit Mughdusyan, Armenia)

This exhibition, presented simultaneously in Baku and Yerevan, takes the form of an exchange of photos and drawings, together with a ceremonial exchange of certificates and gifts. It aims at promoting peace and foster sympathy.

Cyprus Tour (Antigoni Koujaupi, Bugche Bozkurt, Maria Patsia)

Since people are hesitant to cross the borders in Cyprus, this project aims at making travelling easier. By visiting the entire island and meeting people from all around the place, stereotypes can be broken. This tour aims at promoting peace and tolerance.

More up-to-date information on follow up ideas and projects realized can be found on the Council of Europe's Youth-Peace-Dialogue website.