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THE BEST OF YOUTH – NON-PROFIT ASSOCIATION EXPERIENCES

This file reports, for each country participating at «The Best of Youth» project, five (or four in some cases) non-profit association experiences created by young people with a focus about who they are and what they do.

1. ITALIA

VENTI

<https://ventiblog.com/scopri-chi-siamo/>

Heterogeneous group of students, recent graduates, interns or neo-professionals, different in interests and geographical location but united by the desire to share experiences, thoughts, opinions and information.

ASSOCIAZIONE GIOVANILE DI PROMOZIONE SOCIALE NOUS

<https://www.nousngo.eu/chi-siamo/>

This association was born in 2016. It aims to unify different experiences from past to create new points of reference for young people, both to promote opportunities from European programs and to include young artists and cultural operators in a partner associations' international network.

HUMAN RIGHTS INTERNATIONAL CORNER

<https://www.humanrightsic.com>

HRIC has been founded out of the idea of professionals, researchers and experts in Human Rights engaged in supporting and promoting the respect of fundamental rights and principles. It wants to raise the awareness of public and private entities and civil society regarding Human Rights. Thanks to our multi-disciplinary approach, HRIC can cover all human rights related areas: from the access to justice to non-discrimination, from the right to a healthy environment to corporate social responsibility, from the right to a decent work to immigration law.

PRO.M.E.T.E.U.S.

<https://www.facebook.com/associazioneculturaleprometeus/>

Pro.M.E.T.E.U.S. is a cultural association founded by under-35 who have experienced international and European exchanges. It operates without ethnic distinctions, ideological or confessional and is inspired by the principles of equality, respect for human rights, the rule of law and of democracy. To pursue its own purposes, the association carries out design activities and project coordination, research, study, training, information, awareness-raising, organizing cultural activities, events, training courses, at local, regional, national, or international.

VAGAMONDO

<https://vagamondo.info/it/>



Vagamondo is an NGO focused on international mobility, non-formal education, youth work and local development. The main concept of the NGO is travel as a powerful tool of self-discovery and personal development:

2. ROMANIA

Asociatia TB - Think Big

<https://romaniathinkbig.ro>

This organization, from 2017, aims to integrate Romanian youth to the social, economic and cultural reality in a dynamic society.

It started its mission with local projects organized in rural schools to create a promising future for the young generations as the needs and characteristics of the society they live in are continuously changing. Think Big puts into practice the rights and liberties of humans, especially the freedom of thought, of expression, of speech, of movement and the right to work. These are the pivot ideas on which Think Big builds its projects and focus its efforts.

Civic Orientation and Social integration

<http://cosiromania.com>

È un'organizzazione non governativa e senza scopo di lucro il cui obiettivo principale è promuovere l'inclusione sociale di bambini, giovani e adulti con opportunità limitate o bisogni speciali. L'ONG mira a combattere il fenomeno dell'esclusione di qualsiasi tipo attraverso azioni sociali ed eventi di sensibilizzazione. A livello civico, l'organizzazione interagisce con i giovani a livello locale e nazionale, lavorando costantemente per introdurre l'educazione non formale con l'obiettivo di promuovere e stimolare il pensiero critico e creativo, nuove forme di educazione e apprendimento, dando così agli individui l'opportunità di diventare cittadini attivi e orientati al cambiamento.

YMCA

<https://ymca.ro>

YMCA Romania mission is to develop the contemporary society by empowering young people and support the families, to strengthen the communities, in the spirit of Christian values, in accordance with the principles of democracy and human rights. Its vision is to build strong kids, strong families and strong communities where everyone should have equal opportunities to learn, grow and thrive.

DEIS Asociația pentru Dezvoltare prin Educație, Informare și Advocacy (Association for Development through Education, Information and Advocacy)

<https://www.deis.ro>

DEIS Association was founded in Baia Mare by a team of professional young people to bring a change in the life of the civil society, focusing on young people's needs. Its mission is to facilitate the access of young people



to non-formal education and to promote active citizenship as a basis of the development of civil society and citizen's involvement in the democratic process. DEIS Association's projects concentrate on contributing to the personal and professional education and development of young people promoting cultural diversity, promoting European values, helping them to get involved in public life.

A.T.I.C. - Asociația Tinerilor cu Inițiativa Civică (Association of Youth with Civic Initiative)

<https://aticromania.wordpress.com>

A.T.I.C. is a youth NGO that aims to drive the development of the Romanian society attracting young people towards active citizenship and promoting the local and national cultural values. The main goal is to contribute to the social and personal development of local youth. One of its main objectives is the inclusion of local disadvantaged youth through different methods such as sports, music, theatre, dance.

3. SPAGNA

EUEXIA – Asociación Multideportiva Euexia

<https://www.ameuexia.es>

Euexia aims to promote the practice of physical activity in all sectors of the population, as well as collaboration, cooperation and coordination with other entities in the organisation of sporting events. It also promotes socio-cultural dynamisation through projects that cover all the demands of the population. Through its different proposals, Euexia tries to develop in its users all the functions that the practice of physical activity and the enjoyment of their free time have in favour of the improvement of the quality of life and health.

CONSEJOVEN – CIUDAD REAL

<https://www.consejovent.org>

Consejovent promotes youth participation, volunteering and supports young people who want to create their youth associations. Consejovent is a body that represents its about 70 member associations and defends the interest of young people in our town. It provides information of interest to young people and promotes non-formal education and European youth mobilities.

ASOCIATION JUVENIL INTEGRAL - VOLUNTARIADOJOVEN

<https://integravoluntariadojovent.org>

Integral is a youth organization that aims to develop processes of active citizenship and encourage participation among young people. It works steadily with the network of secular youth organizations, particularly active in Aragón, Catalunya and Comunidad Valenciana. It develops specific inclusion programs, with people with few resources and migrant people. The main aim of the organization is to promote that



young people, especially socially disadvantaged young people, are aware of their rights and duties and assume their own defense before Public Administrations and Society.

COLECTIVO GENTES

<https://colectivogentes.es>

GENTES is a non-lucrative organization aimed to promote active youth participation in learning process as well as social volunteering in the European Dimension. It is aimed to promote Implicative and participatory Methodologies as well as Social Volunteering and Civic Participation. In addition, it was our goal to promote better procedures to active participation at individual, group and community levels of participation in the organization. What's more, GENTES is also a non-formal education training school, focused on animation, youth learning process, development of heritage and sharing knowledge.

CONSELL DE LA JUVENTUT DE VALENCIA

<https://www.valenciajove.com>

The Youth Council of Valencia (CJV) is the representative body and coordinator of the associations and youth organizations in the city of Valencia. The main objective is the promotion of youth participation in political, social, economic and cultural topics in Valencia. Its main purposes are to promote and ensure the participation of youth in political, social and cultural topics, especially on issues that directly affect them helping the full development of young people and their inclusion in public life, to spread among young people the values of freedom, peace and human rights and others.

4. MACEDONIA

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION BALKAN

<https://lda.al>

LDA Balkan is a non-governmental organization lead by young professionals, focused on leadership, democracy, good governance, professional growth. It works towards empowering citizenship education and creating an equal society in Balkan. Its vision is to help young individuals to realize their potential and become leaders and change-makers in their community. This organization strives to inspire global youth for constructive engagement and enhance their professional and personal skills through collaborative partnership, international educational and cultural exchange, training and volunteerism since it believes that young people's potential is a movement for the future for a better tomorrow.

YOUTH ON BOARD

<https://youthonboard.com.mk>

It has been established by the free association of citizens for exercising, protecting, and coordinating their interests, rights and beliefs to promote civil society, civic engagement within the local community as well as to perform activities to encourage moral values, strengthen inter-ethnic relations and economic development on the territory of Shtip, the region and abroad, in accordance with the Constitution and laws of our country. One of the main goals of the Association is to improve the quality of educational attainment of young people. Youth on Board is creating an environment where youngsters living in the community could improve and develop their professional lifestyle and their ability to quickly find a job or successfully open their own business.



ASSOCIATION FOR YOUTH ACTIVISM AND GROWTH – EXCEL

<https://www.facebook.com/yagexcel/>

Excel is founded by young people who are coming from different background having the common goal to make their place of living a better one creating the basis for the future generation through a platform where young people can gain skills, knowledge, experience and share their with their peers. The Association's focus is on encouraging young people to take active participation in their local community. One of its goals is to create new tools and/or upgrade the existing ones that it believes necessary for a young person to make a difference in their world.

COALITION OF YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS – SEGA

<https://www.sega.org.mk/en/>

SEGA works on developing and implementing youth policies in Macedonia as well as connecting and strengthening young people to improve their overall state. The membership consists of organizations who work in the field of protection and improvement of the environment, development of entrepreneurship and tourism, international youth cooperation. The main focus of SEGA is youth activism, youth participation, youth employment, democracy, mutual confidence and cooperation, community development, advocacy and lobbying for youth policy.

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT ASSOCIATION

<https://yea.mk>

Youth Empowerment Association is a youth organization founded by youth workers with experience in organizing projects and activities, making young people the main target of the organization. It aims to promote youth participation and active citizenship through non-formal education to produce better policies, greater involvement of the young population in the decision-making process and expand their impact on the positive development of our society. YEA's main goal is building the capacities of the youngsters to improve their competences, but also prepare them for future projects and job requirements.

5. INDIA

DISHA INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION TRUST

<https://www.facebook.com/trustdishango/>

It is specialized in the field of capacity building, personality development, foreign languages, communication and soft skills, environmental and social responsibility awareness and providing intercultural experience. It uses education for positive changes in community. The main objectives are to support individuality and self-realization through capacity building and personality development, fighting unemployment, helping young people to become employable, improving level of competence skills, cooperation between education and professional/work field; volunteering activities and exchanges, work with youth.

YOUTH ALLIANCE

<https://www.youthallianceofindia.org>



Youth Alliance creates leadership programs for young people through participation and collaboration. Its programs are experiential and aimed at giving exposure to social issues to the youth of India. The Youth Alliance community has become a support system for many young people to realize their potential. Through customized leadership programs with other developmental organizations and corporates, Youth Alliance is seeding new thinking and supporting mindset shifts.

YOUTH4JOBS FOUNDATION

<https://www.youth4jobs.org>

This organization was set up with a vision to help youth with disabilities have equal access to education and employment opportunities. It is seen as an opportunity to enable the most vulnerable youth of India to become pioneers by providing skills to youth with disabilities and low education levels from villages.

YOUNG INDIA FOUNDATION

<https://youngindia.foundation>

Young India Foundation is an organization focused on making Indian politics more accessible for India's young people. Through the Centre for Youth Policy and Youth Civic Advocacy, it bridges the gap between the country's youth and their political representatives. Young India Foundation believes in the power of political leadership at the grassroots level and in its country's youth. It empowers young people through a multitude of interventions that focus on increasing youth political sensitivity. It wants to ensure that politics is inclusive of young people and their aspirations and it achieves this through bringing the world of Indian politics directly to them.

6. GHANA

YOUTH INITIATIVE FOR AFRICA DEVELOPMENT

<https://youthinitiativefda.org>

Youth Initiative for Development in Africa (YIDA) is a youth-led and community-based organization that is formed to promote sustainable living by providing quality education and financial inclusion for youth and children in the Kyaka II refugee camp. YIDA offers soft skill training to entrepreneurial refugees and offers them startup capital in the refugee settlement and host communities to develop businesses, hence employment.

AFRICAN YOUTH EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT GHANA

<https://www.facebook.com/Ayedghana/>

The African Youth Empowerment and Development Ghana is an organization committed to providing a platform for the inspiration and empowerment of the youth in Ghana and beyond through promoting opportunities to support, connect and grow young people in business, industry and politics through training, mentoring, networking, strategic alliances, and developing and recognizing excellence in young people. It aims to assist the youth of Ghana and Africa in understanding the growing importance of, and greater potential for youth empowerment and activism for participation in business, industry and politics. The



organization seeks to provide services and opportunities to support all young people in developing a sense of competence, usefulness, belongingness and empowerment.

INFORMED CHOICE FOUNDATION GHANA

<https://www.facebook.com/InformedChoiceFoundationGhana/>

Informed Choice Foundation Ghana is an emerging youth led Non-profit, non- governmental organization in Ghana that works to empower the youth of Africa through access to information and to create a platform that will expand opportunities and enhance the quality of life of young people.

ORGANIZATION FOR STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA – OSDA

<https://www.facebook.com/osdapage/>

OSDA is a non-profit organization committed to bringing accelerated development to deprived communities in Africa through Education, Capacity Building and Health programs. Recognizing that Innovation and Change lies in the heart of our programs, it strives to help people to become strategic in the face of this contemporary complex world. It resolves to achieve these through cultural exchange, volunteerism and knowledge transfer programs.



Positive and necessary features in role models

As during the discussion each group introduced the different characteristics identified in youth role models, this document aims to summarize all the role models' qualities that were considered fundamental during the exchange.

1. Passion. First, a good and positive role model must be passionate about what he does and be able to pass it on to other people. It is important to be passionate about our work.
2. Second, for a role model it is important to have high moral and ethical values. As a role model it's fundamental to support worthy causes and to help others to develop their own values and beliefs to support. Role models need to be honest with themselves and with people who consider them as such.
3. Role models must be confident in their work to have the ability to pass on security to others.
4. Willingness and commitment. Commitment is one of the characteristics of a role model that makes them a good example. It means that they are trustworthy and worthy of admiration. To demonstrate willingness means to have the ability to act and react to problems and contingencies. For young people it is fundamental to have as role models people that does not allow itself to be knocked down and who are reference points in case they lose their way in any sphere of life. Being able to overcome difficulties and achieve one's goals is a positive characteristic for a role model.
5. Another positive characteristic for a role model is to be respectful of others. They need to treat young people as equals. Many times, role models feel themselves superior compared to others, and that's negative in any relationship. It's fundamental to be always humble and to be aware that one can always learn from others, beyond the social status or the work position.
6. Optimism is as important as the other qualities. It is unlikely that anyone would want to emulate a pessimistic individual, so role models inspire others with a positive view of life. Optimists usually see the best in things, even in negative ones, and they have the possibility to transmit this characteristic to those inspired by them.
7. A role model must be service-oriented, for example they have to offer their time, their skills, knowledge and experience to others. It's important for a positive role model to be an active member of a community and to act for its sake.
8. A good role model has the responsibility of his actions and of the results of his plans. Since nobody's perfect, it is important to recognize our own mistakes and to demonstrate to be able to recognize them. That's fundamental to do right the next time. Role models must have communication capabilities to demonstrate their responsibility and learn from past experiences.



9. Role model's accountability is important for self-improvement. The best way to growth and to become a better person and professional is to be open to self-improvement thanks to mistakes, new experiences. It is never too late to learn and change.
10. Last but not least, patience. Someone who remains calm and doesn't make hasty decisions or complete tasks in a hurry in challenging situations.