

ANNUAL REPORT FOR ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED IN 2008



The Centre for Intercultural Dialogue (CID) is a non-governmental, non-profit youth voluntary organization.

1. Non-governmental in a manner that CID will act and work according to its internal values and policies
2. Non-profit is a manner that all income, donations and gifts to CID shall be used only for the purpose of implementation of the CID activity plans that shall aim to achieve CID's aims
3. Youth is our leading motivation and motivator to act actively in our society. CID is an organization formed by young people, for young people
4. Voluntary – all major CID activities as well as the existence of CID as an organization depends a lot on the voluntary involvement of all members of the organization. CID is thankful to its volunteers and will continue to provide everyone with the necessary support to perform at his/her best for the benefit of the society.

Vision

Society of intercultural dialogue, active citizenship and sustainable development where all people live together with mutual respect

Mission

The mission of the Centre for Intercultural Dialogue is to promote and support intercultural understanding and cooperation, peace and solidarity through active youth participation in the society, and especially through volunteer involvement on local and international level

Values

- Peace and Human Rights
- Active youth participation // Empowerment
- Interculturalism
- Voluntary involvement
- Respect for the Environment
- Social, Ethnic, Religious, Cultural, Gender inclusion and equality
- Transparency and Partnership

We will achieve our mission through the following strategic objectives:

Objectives

Objective 1: Promoting and supporting active citizenship within youth, also including networking with institutions and support to institutions in development of active participation mechanisms

Objective 2: Active work and contribution to intercultural dialogue through capacity building and information services for youth

Objective 3: Enhancing voluntary involvement of young people, with working on promotional actions, aiming to primarily promote the SCI work camps, EVS, and local voluntary opportunities

Objective 4: Promoting peace solidarity and Human rights as a culture of living, Organization of outdoor activities, festivals, panel discussions, international exchanges, intercultural meetings etc.

CID is an EVS hosting and sending organization. Apart from the active involvement in the Youth in Action programme CID is organized several local projects in the framework of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue in cooperation with OSCE mission to Skopje.

CID is a member of SAVA working group of SCI, UNITED against racism, TDM 2000 International and actively cooperates with YEU International.

TRAINING COURSES and YOUTH EXCHANGES

Be the change youth want to see

This exchange was aiming to include people who have never done an exchange organized by the Synergy Group. For those who want to develop themselves in the field of non-formal education it was a good start. In this exchange we empowered participants to step out of their daily routine, to do something new in order to get the most out of the moment. In this exchange theory and activities were dynamic, balanced and joyful. The project aimed to make the participants an inspiring leader; organise activities from the beginning till the end in their own organisation; Work on the personal development, Develop communication skills through communication styles training; Be working in an international, intercultural team; Organise outdoor activities; Be working through the 'learning by experience' method, Put all this into practice 'back home'.

Young Citizens for Intercultural Europe

The project aimed to promote the concept of European Citizenship among 28 young people from 7 different countries from Europe (Albania, Czech Republic, Macedonia, Malta, the Netherlands, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia). We organized 7-day training course in Skopje (Macedonia) from the 20 to the 26 February 2008. The training course is based on intercultural learning. The aim of our project was to broaden participants knowledge about European Citizenship and to motivate participants to apply the acquired knowledge, skills and understanding to play an effective role in society at local, national and international levels.

Culture and Human Rights – Culture of Human Rights

The project aimed to promote the importance of intercultural understanding and its importance for the respect of the human rights in Europe. The training course took place in Ohrid, Macedonia gathered 28 participants from 14 countries. It was an intensive 8-day training course using the method of non-formal education. It enabled the participants to learn about the culture as a concept of values and its relation with human rights issues. The human rights part of the course explained not only the theoretical approach, but focused on particular mechanisms for raising awareness about human rights protection and promotion, especially in the field of minority issues. In this section the participants followed a presentation by an expert about the case of Macedonia and the Ohrid framework agreement. There was lots of free space for debates and opinion sharing. During the training course the participants worked on a brochure explaining the main discussions and debates they had, as well as the conclusions made. Every partner NGO received 30 samples of this brochure and had the task to organize its promotion and distribution in the local environment they are active in.

Youth voices, Youth action: Gender in changing Europe

The project aimed to broaden the discussion about gender and discrimination among European young people in the 21st Century. Our training encouraged participants to question traditional stereotypes and inspire youth workers to create local actions that target all kinds of gender-based discrimination through their work with youth.

We organized an 8-day Training course for 28 youth workers from 14 different European countries (Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Croatia, France, FYR Macedonia, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, and Turkey). The training course focused on deepening the discussion about challenging traditional gender roles and assumptions, and will then link the discussion to the process of Active Youth Participation and the empowerment of young people of all genders. The training gathered youth workers from different European countries with different gender politics and cultural backgrounds, so as to promote and facilitate discussion about gender deconstruction and gender equality at the European level. The Active Youth Participation aspect of the training was introduced in order to foster the multipliers role of the participants by actions in participants' communities and organizations that will challenge gender roles and stereotypes at the local level.

The project will end with publishing a DVD with videos and materials from the Training Course, which will be promotional and helpful material, for continuation of the cooperation among youth workers and promoters included.

The Camp GLOW (Girls leading our world) is a leadership camp that gives space for learning of young women on issues specific to women in Macedonia; promotes inter-ethnic diversity and

tolerance; and provides opportunities for young women to build capacity in leadership roles. It was implemented by Peace Corps volunteers with the support of CID.

From July 3-9, 2008 experiential education was provided to 83 young women (ages 14- 18) in civil society, women's' studies, life choices, the world around me, leadership, artistic expression, recreation and teambuilding and other related topics through interactive sessions taught entirely in English over the course of one week.

EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE AS START OF LOCAL YOUTH WORK

Re-establishing connections is the EVS (European Voluntary Service project) hosted by CID in 2008

This project aimed to develop cooperation between different ethnicities living in Macedonia, with the help and support of EVS volunteers from another country. The volunteers conducted regularly workshops for the local youth about the culture and language of their country and through these workshops will try to create possibilities for local Macedonian and Albanian (as well as Roma) youth to contact between each other. With these activities the volunteers and a local team from the host organization worked to prevent school segregation according to the language of study, thus promoting tolerance and cooperation. These were the same goals for the other activities that the volunteers made during the EVS. These activities were related to supporting the local youth council in the town of Kumanovo and the cross border youth council mainly through making activities about active citizenship and tolerance among the young people. The project itself was a great learning opportunity for the volunteers to discover the current situation in a divided society. Also the local youth had a chance to discuss about the European values with someone that comes from a different country from their own, but also a chance to promote changes (especially in the area of non-discrimination and tolerance). Through hosting EVS volunteers CID's human resource capacity has intensively grown and resulted with having a group of 20 active local volunteers supporting our work.

The EVS project of Mr Menno Weijs included several activities undertaken in Kumanovo, Macedonia. The activities were based on working with young people from different ethnic groups, especially Albanians and Macedonian youth. His project was based on helping the other volunteers in their workshops that they held in the Macedonian and Albanian high school, to end up with mixed workshops for the students. He was also very helpful in office work and support of the establishing of stronger host organization, as well as helping organizing different youth exchanges and training courses that CID organized during his EVS activity.

Thijs was working in organizing a three days festival in Kumanovo. Mr van Nimwegen was part of the team that organized this very succesfull event, along with the other volunteers that CID was hosting in that time and the supervisor. His was mainly working on promotion of the festival, created and updated a web page for Streets Festival, and was very involved in filming the whole event.

Alessandra Verruci was working on **intercultural language workshops for Italian** which aimed to get the youth familiar to other cultures and languages and to raise awareness about Italian language and cultural diversity in Italy.

The German Language workshops held by Anna Schroder and Lena Otte started with very high interest of participants. Although aiming to have 20 participants in total, there were more that 100 applications received from high school students. The volunteers eventually needed to make a selection of the participants with whom they will conduct the workshops. After having intensive workshop schedule in spring of 2008, the German language workshops ended with producing a comic-book that can serve as a language lesson for German. The Polish language workshops were conducted by the Polish volunteer in the primary schools in Kumanovo. There were in total 10 young people from Kumanovo that followed the workshops and learned more about Polish culture and history.

Sandra Sturris organized workshops on learning about different cultures trough religion. Especially succesfull were the mixed workshops that were held with support of CID, and the excusion organized by Sandra as an end of the workshops. The excursions with both groups was made to two villages in the surrounding of Kumanovo where the young people had a chace to visit a church and a mosque. Appart from visiting the young people also disucssed about these two religions with an imam and a priest.

Pijatta Heinonen held an activity with the **Roma community** in cooperation with a Roma Community centre working on local level. There were in total 10 art workshops that Pijatta held for the kids attending the center. The pictures produced during the workshop were published in a picture

catalogue. Also Pijatta made a small research asking the kids about their wishes for the future and their needs, which are different than the ones of the kids in her birthplace.

The Polish volunteer Michal Baranowski worked on making a film about the schools in Kumanovo, the inter-ethnic relations and how young Macedonians and Albanians see the problem of division of the schools according to the language of study.

YEAR OF INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

The Center for Intercultural Dialogue started implementing the project Promoting **Multiculturalism** in May 2008 in partnership with the OSCE Mission to Skopje, as a contribution to promote 2008, as the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue.

From 13th to 18th of September a **Training Course “Youth Leadership and Animation”** was held in Ohrid. The training aims to promote the importance of intercultural understanding and its importance for the mutual respect between all ethnicities living in Macedonia. There were in total 21 participants from each participating region: Kumanovo, Skopje, Tetovo, Gostivar, Kicevo, Struga and Ohrid. Youngsters aged from 15-19 years old applied using a short questionnaire and submitted these applications to the partners in each region that did the selection.

The objectives of the training course were as follows:

- To raise the young peoples' awareness about multiculturalism as one of the greatest assets of Macedonia;
- To mobilize the youngsters, as well as the local youth NGOs in promoting multiculturalism, intercultural dialogue and tolerance;
- To make young people active in promoting multiculturalism in their areas

Local actions implemented as follow-up of the training course:

In early October, the Kumanovo youth animation group organized an activity which they called “Urban Art”. The aim of the activity was to promote graffiti-style art with positive messages in **Kumanovo**. The local municipality donated public space in Kumanovo for youth to paint a mural, and local graffiti artists were recruited to help.

In early October, a group of youth from **Gostivar** organized an environmental action. Youth leaders gathered a multiethnic group of young people from Gostivar schools to clean the public areas along the Vardar River.

In late October, a group of youth leaders from **Skopje** partnered with local NGO Cre-ACT-ive to hold an open art workshop at Gjorce Petrov park in Skopje. Youth artists set up booths where local people were encouraged to get in touch with their creative side and make different kinds of arts and crafts.

A musical and theatre show was prepared by the **Kicevo** group and their friends from different ethnicities in Kicevo, in order to make a special event for the young people staying in the Day-care centre for youth with disabilities in Kicevo. There are in total 25 youngsters that go in the centre.

On 02.11.2008 the **Tetovo** local action was realized at the office of NGO Multikultura the local partner NGO from Tetovo. The action was a workshop with 20 participants from different nationalities. . The workshop started with a presentation of one hour documentary a film “Whose is this song” following a discussion.

The local action organized by the **Ohrid** group was designed as a one-day workshop that brought together 28 young people from 4 different folklore groups from the town (Macedonian, Albanian, Turkish and Egyptians) The workshop aimed to present and discuss non-violent communication, stereotypes and prejudices.

The follow up meeting in Skopje gathered 18 of the 21 participants from the training in Skopje on the 19th and 20th December. The aim of this meeting was to exchange best practices and lessons learned from the implementation of the local actions in the different towns concerned. The meeting had two methodological parts. The first day of the meeting was focusing on more advanced project cycle management work, sharing ideas and presenting the local actions implemented, discussing the opportunities and risks that happened while implementing the projects.

Within the project also a catalogue with photos was published. CID made a call for a photography competition and published the advertisement. The received photographs were evaluated by the jury who selected a winner photo that at a later stage was developed into a card. The mobile exhibition with all the selected photos took place on the 24th December in Skopje and Tetovo. The exhibition gathered 15 participants from Kumanovo and additional participants from Skopje and Tetovo that were carrying around the photos, making energizes, presenting the project and explaining what is multiculturalism to the people that would stop to see the exhibition. A film crew was called to make a short documentary of the exhibition that will later on use in the production of the film about multiculturalism. During these events the catalogue was distributed in the towns.

INVOLVEMENT IN SERVICE CIVIL INTERNATIONAL – WORKCAMPS HOSTED IN MACEDONIA

First Pacifist Voluntary Project (PVP) work camp – July 2008 – Kumanovo Youth Open Festival was hosted by CID and gathered 12 international volunteers for 10 days in Kumanovo.

Organizing youth open festival was the best way and place to foster the multiethnic cooperation, because people of all ethnicities present meet in the centre everyday. The three day summer festival promoted multiethnic cooperation and should aim to strengthen the peace in the region.

Objectives were also linked to:

- To promote short term and long term volunteerism.
- To involve Peace Messenger in promotion peace education
- To motivate local inhabitants, to have active role play on a construction of multiculturalism in the society.
- To give the opportunity to young people from Kumanovo to meet and work with people from different countries and different background, in order to foster the ICL process.
- Share suggestions and ideas about how young people can work for equal opportunities for everybody no matter of ethnicity and culture
- Motivate volunteers to apply the acquired knowledge, skills and attitudes to play an active role in society at the local, national and international level.

The festival was opportunity for the ethnicities present in Kumanovo to collaborate on peaceful and artistic level. This kind of cultural activities (festival) really misses to our town. Through the festival young people had opportunity to express their artistic skills as well as the opinion about multiculturalism, peace and tolerance, The short movie produced was not only a mark of the project, but also useful material for presenting Kumanovo.

From 22 July – 8 August the Center for Intercultural Dialogue organized the first Balkan **traveling workcamp “Rail of Peace 2008”** for young people. The traveling workcamp was organized in the framework of the SAVA Plan of Action 2007-2008. One of the aims of SAVA is to further develop cooperation between organizations in South East Europe which in practice was seen throughout the travelling workcamp.

The aim of the traveling workcamp was to raise awareness of the local population and international volunteers in the SEE countries about peace and peaceful conflict resolution. The programme of the camp was consisted of one week long training for the volunteers, visits to workcamps in Macedonia, Bulgaria and Serbia and evaluation meeting in Ohrid of the volunteers.

Provisional budget

Total amount in €	Incomes in €	Financier
198 232	81900	European Commission- Youth in Action
	23050	Other partnership based Youth in Action funding
	25100	OSCE Mission to Skopje
	68182	Other (German Embassy, USAID, Municipality, Membership fees and travel contribution)