

GRUNDTVIG



# MEDIATION FOR COMMUNICATION

Padua - Italian Meeting

2013 - 2015

Newsletter, Issue 6

12-16 May 2015

## INTRA AND INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION



Ursula Napoli - Associazione Genitorialita -

Cross- and intercultural communication was the subject of the last mobility in the Grundtvig learning partnership **Mediation of Conflicts and Optimization of Communication in the social and cultural environment** which took place in Padova, Italy, between 12-16 May 2015.

The schedule of the mobility consisted of the presentation of the organization in Italy - Associazione Genitorialita Padua (president Isabella Robbiani) - followed by an outline given by Edwin A. Lawton of the results and activities of the previous mobility in Gijon, Spain, thus disseminating some of the key features of the project to a wider audience.

Franco Berti, Michaela Gamba, Lucia Prudentino - representatives of the municipality of Padova - then presented the opportunities of the new generation of Erasmus+ projects: teacher training and

school opportunities, Youth mobilities, opportunities offered by Youth projects to schools and students.

Communication, the means through which we can make other persons understand our message via words, images, or gestures, was the topic dealt with during the workshops with the help of short plays performed by Giulia Aldovini, Riccardo Morelli de Rossi, thus making the transition from the individual message to the collective one, from I and You to We, changes that do not take place without control, but starting from each and everyone's needs for communication, by tackling personal values, through negotiation, acceptance, shared points of view and tolerance, the contradictions that may bring about conflicts are annihilated.

### Programme:

**Isabella Robbiani**, President of Associazione Genitorialita - "Mediation and Conflict Resolution"

**Franco Berti**, coordinator of Youth Project, Municipality Padua - opportunities offered by Youth project

**Michaela Gamba**, coordinator of Youth mobility, Municipality Padua - teachers trainings and school opportunities under Erasmus

**Lucia Prudentino**, coordinator Eurodesk network - European Youth mobilities

**Giulia Aldovini, Riccardo Morelli de Rossi, Michele Silvestrin** - Theater performance and circle time of mediation

**Ursula Napoli, Riccardo Morelli de Rossi, Gianna Gallizia** - Conflict mediation at school: intra and intercultural communication

### Points of interest:

- **Project activities in the Spanish Mobility** - Edwin A. Lawton
- **Coordinators meeting:** discussion, improvement and adaptation of mediation techniques to the specific needs of each organization
- **Cultural visits:** guided visit to monuments of Padua city, visit to Venice - Green Energy Park, visit to Orto Botanico Padua, Scrovegni Chapel and Ermitani Museum, trip to Venice.





"It is impossible to  
NOT  
communicate."

## NEWSLETTER NO.6

The focal moment of the meeting was the approach of inward and outward communication using Augusto Boal's method - putting on an act. *Theatre is like a mirror that reflects our qualities and flaws as well and at the same time, theatre is a mirror where someone can change reality, transform it.*

The workshops were coordinated by Michele Silvestrin, actor and theatrical art trainer. Consequently, participants from all 6 countries illustrated non-verbal communication and emphasized its importance in the process of conveying / receiving a message alongside other kinds of communication (verbal, body language, face expressions). The activities put forward by the organisers made a clear-cut distinction between the act of communication and the act of speaking and affirmed what the components of communication are, aspects that correspond to certain key questions such as: *Who communicates? How do we communicate? Why do we communicate? What do we communicate?*

The debriefing activities laid emphasis on the need for active listening, understanding the message conveyed and decoding the non-verbal message, the styles of communication: assertive, passive or aggressive. Communication is an essential component of our life that can become a source of conflict if it causes contradictions due to the speaker's misunderstanding the message.

The meeting of the project coordinators settled the main aspects and contents of the final report, common and specific elements, material editing and final results, bringing out newsletter no. 6, further debates on the functioning of the partnership network, the European dimension of the project and the shared experience on EST (European Shared Treasure).

As for the cultural activities, we can name: visits to some historic monuments in Padova, to the Green Energy Park in Fenice, to the Botanical Zoo in Padova – the first of its kind in Europe, to Scrovegni Chapel which houses frescoes painted by Giotto in 1305 and last but not least, a cultural activity that took place in Venice.

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"People hate one another because they are afraid, they are afraid because they do not know one another, and they do not know one another because they do not communicate."

(Martin Luther King)