ACTIVITY REPORT

Training on Advocacy, Visibility and Awareness Raising

"Yes, we are citizens! The rights of migrant people, refugees and IVS"

May 4th - May 10th, 2015
Brussels - Belgium

hosted by JAVVA asbl
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“Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.”

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) - Article 13

(Picture: a street action conducted in the plaza near Clemenceau metro station in Brussels, Belgium)
INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND

“Yes, we are citizens! The rights of migrant people, refugees and IVS” is a training where we want to gather activists and local volunteers involved in the thematics of human rights, and especially regarding the topic of migrant people, refugees and the right to citizenship, from the very diverse countries in Europe; and go through a training process in which we will acquire: understanding of the situation of human rights in Europe; exchange of experiences and knowledge from experts and every participant; skills for activism and awareness raising; experience in organising awareness raising activities.

The training is based on the idea that every person (as recognised in the Universal Charter of Human Rights) has the right to a decent life, regardless of the place she or he is living, regardless of the place she or he was born. That every person is entitled to the right of citizenship, participation and basic rights, and that only admitting and promoting this fact will real sustainable societies, democratic societies be built.

We are willing to contribute to this process by training, exchanging and raising awareness with young activists/volunteers from all over Europe and link this to the International Voluntary Service movement.

Brussels has strong political symbols, as such it was chosen to be the event venue and a place to gather external experts and relevant stakeholders, as well as a location for the participants to make advocacy actions, which would help enlarge the visibility.

OBJECTIVES

The aim of the training was that participants would be empowered to organise awareness raising actions in their countries when they go back, so that the multiplying effect would make that actions on human rights related to migrations, refugees and the right to move would happen and generate debates all over Europe and the world after the training.

Specifically, the training was:

• To develop knowledge of the pluridimensional concept of sustainability, linked to human rights and social inclusion;

• To train young activists, involved volunteers in IVS organisations, on the topic of Human Rights and Migrations, developing skills for awareness raising actions;

• To raise awareness on the topic of Human Rights of all people and specially linked to the right of mobility, migrations and refugee people;
• To conduct advocacy and institutional action about the topic and following the Campaign for Freedom of Movement of the CCIVS.

THE GROUP

25 activists from the International Voluntary Service movement were selected, including 2 experienced trainers Oriol (in charge of campaigns coordination of CCIVS) and Thierry (trainer and in charge of communication of JAVVA).

Here is a list of participating organisations:

- Coordinating Committee for International Voluntary Service (CCIVS), France
- Concordia France, France
- Egyesek Youth Association, Hungary
- Internationale Begegnung in Gemeinschaftsdiensten (IBG), Germany
- Indonesia International Work Camp (IIWC), Indonesia
- JAVVA, Belgium
- Kenya Voluntary Development Association, Kenya
- Lunaria, Italy
- SCI Service Civil International, Belgium
- Solidarités Jeunesses, France
- Vive México, Mexico
- Volunteer Action for Peace UK, UK
- Volunteers for Peace Vietnam, Vietnam
- Xchange Scotland, UK
- Youth Action for Peace (YAP), Italy

Here is a list of external experts and stakeholders that participated in the event:

- Caritas
- Coordination et Initiatives pour Réfugiés et Étrangers (Cirée, Coordination and Initiatives for Refugees and Foreigners), Belgium
- European Commission
- Fédération des ONG de coopération au développement (ACODEV, Federation of NGOs in Development Cooperation), Belgium
- UN Development Programme
### INTRODUCTION

Training on Advocacy, Visibility and Awareness Raising

### PROGRAMME

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon 04/05</th>
<th>Tue 05/05</th>
<th>Wed 06/05</th>
<th>Thu 07/05</th>
<th>Fri 08/05</th>
<th>Sat 09/05</th>
<th>Sun 10/05</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arrival and welcome</td>
<td>8h Breakfast</td>
<td>8h Breakfast</td>
<td>8h Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>9h30</td>
<td>Peace, Human Rights and IVS: general framework</td>
<td>9h30</td>
<td>Belgian good practices: the experience of CNCD and CIRE</td>
<td>9h30</td>
<td>Practical tools for activism and popular mobilisation</td>
<td>9h30</td>
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<tr>
<td>18h30 Registration</td>
<td>13h Lunch</td>
<td>13h Lunch</td>
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<td>13h Lunch</td>
<td>13h Lunch</td>
<td>12h30</td>
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<tr>
<td>14h Human Rights in Europe nowadays. Migrations and refugees</td>
<td>14h Practical tools for activism and popular mobilisation</td>
<td>15h Institutional event (European Commission, UNDP, Caritas, IOM)</td>
<td>15h European Commission</td>
<td>16h Evaluation of the awareness raising actions</td>
<td>Steenrock Detention Center (solidarity action towards migrants held in restricted centers)</td>
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<tr>
<td>19h30 Dinner</td>
<td>19h30 Dinner</td>
<td>20h Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>21h Presentation of the programme</td>
<td>Open Space</td>
<td>Preparation of Actions</td>
<td>20h30 Brussels by night with JAVVA volunteers</td>
<td>Evaluation of the week</td>
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Upon arrival, the Group made a self-presentation. They were given an event passport in which they wrote down their identity awareness, expectations, skills etc. The document was also used as a journal to track down the development and gains during the event.
CHAPTER ONE  WHAT MAKES YOU HUMAN

WARM UP

When we entered the training room, our attention was immediately drawn by these four words “WHAT MAKES YOU HUMAN”. The question is simple, but the answer is beyond simple. People picked up a colour pen and some paper and started to reflect on what elements or characteristics make them feel human.

Stardust; compassion; smile; feelings; capacity to wear somebody else's shoes; starting actions from emotions; willingness to be vulnerable, taking risks for the sake of a fellow human being; connection with other beings; willingness to make a better life for the next generation and to advocate better human for our mother earth; be respectful with everything around; empath; respecting and understanding others; reflection; awareness of morality; falling asleep of the half a page reading; other people; sentiments to belonging feeling; capacity of anticipation; being imperfect, strong, weak and crying for happiness; will to change; will to understand and communicate with other beings; being alive; peace dove; rights to live and be myself; ability to impact; capacity to change my own life and others' lives; freedom of expression; ability to decide; fear of death; Africa; capacity to love; capacity to reason; ability to see and realise the consequences...
A PATH TO HUMAN RIGHTS

Before we go deeper to analyse the human rights situations in the world, it is important to reflect on the concepts of human rights, as well as the existing systems or mechanisms to protect those rights. As such, participants were invited to an itinerary called ‘A Path to Human Rights’.

As the starter, Oriol (facilitator) gave an overview of the basic theory of Human Rights and the international mechanisms that defend Human Rights, such as the United Nations Human Rights Treaty System and the European Court for Human Rights.

The participants were then given with quotes and articles of different treaties and declarations on Human Rights. After 15 minutes of silent reading and note-taking, they sat in small teams and shared opinions on three fundamental questions: What is a Human Right? Who have Human Rights? Who decides it?

Here is a summary of what has been highlighted by the participants:

◊ **WHAT IS A HUMAN RIGHT?**

- It is a basic right and a judicial concept. A contract bounding guaranteed by law. It is a tool for people not to be oppressed by states or other powers (private companies, etc).
• An inherent (you are born with) universal (for everybody) inalienable right to human life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness which should be legally enforceable by civil authorities.

◊ WHO HAVE HUMAN RIGHTS?

• EVERYBODY!
• All human beings should have their HR guaranteed. The reality is however that only some people have them.

◊ WHO DECIDES IT?

• States and general assembly set by states. However, the fact of being a human enables you to have human rights!
• Everybody, by democratic mandate.

Augustine from Kenya has pointed out that there is regional discrimination and that Europe and US need to think about the human rights from the perspectives of Africans and Asians as they are participating in the human rights movement negatively.

Meanwhile Paul from UK has emphasized that the Council of Europe is an international body for human rights issues and it is involved with much more countries.

After having the theoretical inputs about the basics of human rights and the relevant international systems and mechanism that defend human rights, the Group was divided into three smaller teams so that they could make a discussion exercise on what are the main actors in human rights issues.
They needed to identify what could be the positive elements and negative elements in different actors including citizens, NGOs, CSOs, national states, international organisations and the United Nations etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POSITIVE ELEMENTS / ACTIONS</th>
<th>NEGATIVE ELEMENTS / ACTIONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activism</td>
<td>Ignorance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Everyday interactions</td>
<td>Not engaging with the reality</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aware, care and take action</td>
<td>Violence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Raising awareness to change the opinion of decision makers</td>
<td>Being selfish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Impose good practices that guarantee their own community sanity</td>
<td>Not acting when a HR are violated – by any means (closing your eyes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get organized</td>
<td>Being indifferent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educating themselves and the others citizens</td>
<td>Taking profit of HR violations that have made some countries wealthy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Through education and knowledge</td>
<td>Activities applying in every day life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities applying in every day life</td>
<td>Rivolta! (activism, demonstrations, ...)</td>
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POSITIVE ELEMENTS / ACTIONS

- Instrument
- Articulate for policy and lobby

NEGATIVE ELEMENTS / ACTIONS

- Financial restrictions
- Bias
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### NATIONAL STATES

**POSITIVE ELEMENTS / ACTIONS**
- Ratify treaties on national level
- Negotiation international decisions
- Respecting laws ratified
- Signing declarations
- Setting up institutions
- Providing means to enforce these HR
- Do whatever it takes
- Signs and Ratify treaties
- Translate them into national laws
- Enforces said laws

**NEGATIVE ELEMENTS / ACTIONS**
- Protect national interest
- Abuse of Human Rights for political expediency
- No respect treaties
- Not enforcing the declarations
- Being the actors that violate HR: discriminations, etc.
- Policing HR abuses

### INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

**POSITIVE ELEMENTS / ACTIONS**
- International Projects
- Global campaigns

**NEGATIVE ELEMENTS / ACTIONS**
- Corruption
- Bias
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- Sharing knowledge
- Raising awareness in a wide level
- Pass the law to protect people
- Intervene when a violation of HR is happening
- observers
- take legal actions and decision through courts

- Double – standards
- Ignoring
- Don't allow the law to take part
- violates HR (eg. Some tread agreements violates food security right)

POSITIVE ELEMENTS / ACTIONS

- Declarations - global unifying
- Continuous evaluation
- Financial support from above to bellow
- By international treaties and agreement
- Putting pressuring in the UN countries to respect human right
- Raising awareness
- Reacting to hr violations
- By creating and promoting HR and his administration system

NEGATIVE ELEMENTS / ACTIONS

- Ignore Human Rights because they don't want to act
- Passiveness VETO power
- No power over some states
- Not action when HR are violated
- Political institution → so it has a political games/interest within. Unequal inner system.
- Not acting
- not having a legally enforceable system

The participants have also mentioned the fact that everyday behaviours such as disengaging or ignorance of the citizens are somehow a form of violation of the Human Rights. At the same time, international institutions such as the World Trade Organisation is putting many threats over the Human Rights issues and the states try to protect their own interests regardless the violation of Human Rights. The civil societies and citizens can and should do more lobbying although it should be pointed out that they face serious financial restrictions to act and cannot legitimate the declarations themselves.
There are ten core international human rights instruments. Each of these instruments (9 human rights treaties and the Optional Protocol to the CAT) has established a committee of experts to monitor implementation of the treaty provisions by its States parties. 

-- United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
SHARING HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS

With participants from four different continents (Asia, Africa, America and Europe) across the world, a session was dedicated to the sharing of human rights situations. The tragedies of hundreds and thousands of refugees and migrants drown in the Mediterranean and Pacific seas kept rising and were followed by an increasing number of hate speeches in many countries, as such the Group made a special focus on the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

Some made the openings through the sharing of their very own experiences as international migrants or human rights defenders and the obstacles they were facing; some demonstrated statistics and figures based on their field research and work with refugees and migrants. The participants also reviewed on some of the important national or regional policies towards migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

The following summary is the highlights of presentations done by all the participants and is categorised into four aspects: global, countries of destination, countries of origin and countries of transit.

(Picture: the participants pin-pointed the human rights issues of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.)
GLOBAL

- Migration and globalisation go together
- 'labour migrations
- ex-colonisation and post-colonisation
- Europe might bring enough funds but mismanage the mafia

COUNTRIES OF DESTINATION

- Expulsion of migrants
- Unbalance in asylum hosting distribution
  - Different – ‘exaggerated’ vision in Europe?
  - Germany maximum of 500 people while UK maximum of 33 people
  - Hungary with 43000 applications and only 400 got asylum approved
  - China has 300000 refugee hosted
  - 2 million refugees in Kenya (mostly Somalis) and 3 refugees camps with 80000 each
- ‘Legal’ discrimination of movement (eg. Asylum seekers not allowed to work in France)
- Public violence
- Administrative and legal
  - Barriers
  - Mistreatment in France
  - Lack of resources and lack of management
  - Health care exclusion
  - Exclusion of Romani
  - In China it’s difficult (almost impossible) for foreigners to get citizenship
- Dublin ‘agreement’ for Australia: ‘don’t let them even arrive’ policy
- Political pressure
  - Hungary: referendum on migration and refugee
  - Extremist right party in parliament against Romani people
- Borders of Europe
- Detention centres
  - Italy: it’s a big conflict and has raised social debates; some of the centres were closed
- Social extremism far right (eg. Golden Dawn in Greece and Front National in France)
- Xenophobia – racism
  - UK voters: migration is the most important topic
  - Discrimination – ghettos of migrant descents
PATH TO HUMAN RIGHTS

COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN
- War conflicts
- Africa: Arab spring → several conflicts → migration asylum → Sahara more dangerous than Mediterranean
- Libya: UK, Europe provokes war
- Economic pole breaks down
- Conflicts in Congo: migration to Kenya and Europe
- Islamic State agreements: conflicts Boko Haram, Er-Shabab, djihad
- Political system repression (eg. China Tian’an Men Square)
- Indonesia
  - cases of abuses bring crimes in response by immigrants workers
  - Imprisoned migrants and refugees
  - Refugees from Syria going to Australia sink
- Internal migrations discrimination

COUNTRIES OF TRANSIT
- Mafias
- abuse
- walls and fences
- assassinations
- disappearance
It is time to take a more comprehensive look at the various dimensions of the migration issue, which now involves hundreds of millions of people, and affects countries of origin, transit and destination. We need to understand better the causes of international flows of people and their complex interrelationship with development.”

-- Kofi Annan, United Nations Secretary General from his report on strengthening the Organization, 9 November 2002
CHAPTER TWO  ADVOCACY TOOLS & PRACTICES

WARM UP – A WELCOME HUG

A hug is a form of physical intimacy, universal in human communities and it can indicate familiarity, love, affection, friendship, brotherhood or sympathy.

ADVOCACY - BELGIUM APPROACH

Three Belgium NGOs were invited to have a workshop and experience sharing on how to make effective campaigns and advocacy.
(Cécile Vanderstappen and Carine Thibaut from CNCD and Valentine De Muylder from CIRÉ.)

THE ORGANISATIONS

Originated from the 60s, ACODEC (*Fédération des ONG de coopération au développement*) is a federation and network composed of 86 member organisations. It believes in the added value of the work and efforts of NGO and it aims to strengthen its member organisations and to have a better cooperation for development.

Besides fundraising for projects in the South and providing capacity building opportunities to the local partners, ACODEC also carries out communication campaigns and lobbying. During recent years, its campaigning focuses are climate change, social justice, migration etc.

http://www.acodev.be/
CNCD-11.11.11 (Centre national de coopération au développement) is a leading player in Belgium for international solidarity. Together with our members and NGOs in collaboration with our partners in the South, they put in place concrete and structural solutions to eradicate poverty and defend a fairer world.

http://www.cncd.be

Created in 1954, CIRÉ (Coordination et initiatives pour réfugiés et étrangers) is a pluralistic coordination structure that brings together 24 associations which provide social support and assistance to asylum seekers, worker unions, permanent education and international organisations. The aim is to reflect and act together on issues related to the issue of asylum seekers, refugees and foreigners.

http://www.cire.be

THE CAMPAIGNS

FRONTEXIT.ORG

http://www.frontexit.org/

Frontexit is an international campaign for the defence of migrants' human rights at the external borders of the European Union. It is led by 21 associations, researchers and individuals from both North and South of the Mediterranean, including ABCDS (Morocco), AMDH (Morocco), AMDH (Mauritania), AME (Mali), ARACEM (Mali), ARCI (Italy), La Cimade (France), CIRÉ (Belgium), CNCD-11.11.11 (Belgium), FASTI (France), FIDH (International network), GISTI (France), GADEM (Morocco), GRAMI-AC (Regional network), JSFM (International network), LDH (Belgium), Migreurop (Regional network), PASCS-DM /PD (SENEGAL), PLN (Belgium), EMHRN (Euro Mediterranean).
The Campaign aims to inform a wide audience about the impacts of Frontex operations in terms of human rights, and to denounce these impacts to the political representatives who are directly involved.

**SILENT MARCH**


As a spontaneous reaction to the tragedy where hundreds of migrants lost their lives in the attempt to cross the Mediterranean sea, Amnesty International, CIRÉ, Vluchtelingenwerk, CNCD-11.11.11, Ligue des droits de l'homme, Médecins du monde, Bruxelles laïque and Plate-forme des sans-papiers organised a silent march on the 23 April 2015. Over 1000 people walked towards the Place de la Liberté advocating the slogans such as "Sauvez des vies", "People Before Borders" and "Never Again".

During this interaction session, the participants have learnt some insights on how to make influential and sustainability campaigns:

1. Ally with other NGO and partners to share resources and enhance impact;
2. Get the public involved and have the campaign visible;
3. Make use of communication resources and media explosion.

**AWARENESS RAISING PRACTICES**

The floor was then given to participants who shared their experiences on awareness raising activities.

Thierry and Caroline from JAVVA (Belgium) showcased the needs and techniques of awareness raising activities.

PREZI presentation: [http://goo.gl/Grso7f](http://goo.gl/Grso7f)
Cathy from SIW (Netherlands) and Active Rainbow talked about her experience in running the “Say Yes to” campaign.

PREZI presentation: https://goo.gl/KBvMfu

Mai representing Volunteers For Peace Vietnam shared the approach of international voluntary service in the role of awareness raising.

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INSTITUTIONAL EVENT

Brussels is a major centre for international politics. Besides hosting the headquarter of the European Union, it is also the home for many other important institutions and international NGO. The Schuman neighbourhood witnesses numerous politicians, diplomats, lobbyists and civil activists.

The Programme was foreseen to organise an institutional event with the participation of relevant stakeholders and experts, namely the European Commission, United Nations Development Programme and Caritas. It started with a round table sessions where the invitees made key-note speeches, then followed with an interactive exchange with all the participants and a non-formal networking moments during a reception.

It was not only a valuable learning moments for the participants who benefited from the talks of the invitee representatives, but also an inspirational occasion as all the people could have the face-to-face exchange.

Ms Misia Coghlan
Project Advisor of the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)

EACEA is responsible for the management of certain parts of the EU’s funding programmes in the fields of education, culture, audiovisual, sport, citizenship and volunteering. The Erasmus+, an integrated programme for the period 2014–2020, will provide opportunities for over 4 million Europeans to study, train, gain work experience and volunteer abroad and will support over 125,000 institutions and organisations to work with peers in other countries to innovate and modernise teaching practice and youth work.

www.eacea.ec.europa.eu
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The DG for Migrations and Home Affaire manages policies that aim at ensuring that all activities necessary and beneficial to the economic, cultural and social growth of the EU may develop in a stable, lawful and secure environment. Their actions include stricter rules against illicit trafficking of firearms and on trafficking in human beings, as well as revision of legislation on combating child sexual abuse, sexual exploitation and child pornography.

Mr Bartłomiej Balcerzyk
Policy Officer of the DG for Migrations and Home Affaire of the European Commission

Ms Joanne Irvine
JMDI Knowledge Management Expert of the United Nations Development Programme

UNDP works in nearly 170 countries and territories, helping to develop policies, leadership skills, partnering abilities, institutional capabilities and build resilience in order to sustain development results.

The Joint Migration and Development Initiative (JMDI) reflects the commitment of the United Nations, the European Commission and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation to make migration work for development and to establish a comprehensive approach to migration at the local level.

www.ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs

www.migration4development.org
Mr Steven Valckx
Coach of Caritas Internationalis

Caritas Internationalis is confederation of over 160 members who are working at the grassroots. Their work is about ensuring the poorest and most marginalized are the driving force in our emergency response, sustainable development and peace building. They help victims of war, natural disasters, and poverty. In Belgium, they support migrants by offering a human and individual response to their migration journey.

www.caritas.org

Moreover, the Directorate General for Education and Culture of the European Commission was invited to give the Group an info session. Mr Payer explained in details different funding programmes and showcased best practices of youth initiatives.

Mr Artur Payer
Youth and Sport Unit of the DG Education and Culture of the European Commission

The Directorate General for Education and Culture (DG EAC) is the executive branch of the European Union responsible for policy on education, culture, youth, languages, and sport. DG EAC also supports these issues through a variety of projects and programmes, notably Creative Europe and Erasmus+. It is led by a Commissioner, Tibor Navracsics, and a Director General, Martine Reicherts, who report to the European Parliament.

www.ec.europa.eu/dgs/education_culture
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CHAPTER THREE  123 ACTION!

REALITIES VS VISIONS VS ACTIONS

Now that the participants have had a journey of enlightenment on human rights and advocacy, it’s high time they combine those theories and their visions and put them into practice!

In terms of the rights on migrant people and the active citizens, what are the realities we would like to address and what can we do to achieve our visions?

What are the realities we would like to address?

What are our visions?

What can we do?
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In order to make an effective campaign or advocacy action, it is important to convey a clear and concise message to the target.

The Group had an brainstorming and walking gallery session to reflect on possible messages for an action in Brussels.

**HUMAN RIGHTS FOR ALL**

- Human rights are natural and for all
- Human Rights Go Left, let’s bring them back! Time for Change, this time is NOW!
- Give miGRANTS their Human Rights – They shouldn’t have to ask for them!
- Migration is natural
- Migration is a condition
- No human is illegal! (just there are migrants and refugees who are irregularised by our system)
- People looks for an opportunity, give them a chance.
- We are all migrants (human).
- The only danger are those who cut the human rights of people.
- It is not about who is wrong or right! It is about working for each of us in order to live equally, peacefully and create a better world
- Right to equal opportunities, without exception
- It is nobody’s right to suspend human rights
POSITIVE MESSAGES ABOUT MIGRANTS

- We all are migrants. We are potentials migrants. Migrants are like rivers. Let them pass through
- Migration is an opportunity to understand global issues through communication with people from different countries
- I was not born to live in one comer! The whole world is my native land
- Iammigrant #YouAndIMakeMeHuman
- Migration is an opportunity to creation of new perspectives in different areas of community life
- We were born to move
- There has always been migration, but it still is a minor phenomenal, just a minority of people migrants (3%)
- 600000 foreign interpreter 8,8% Italy GDP (it is good for ‘our’ economy)
- Migration = cultural exchange
- Enjoy
- Go where the locals go
- What if migration (= cultural exchange) was not happening?
- Cultural impact
- Diversifying the world by enabling migration!

VIOLATION OF MIGRANTS’ RIGHTS

- V for Violation, NO MORE
- Apathy is agreeing to the violations. Act Now! #HR4All
- Stop imprisoning people for not having the right papers
- You just need fair people not to do anything to make unfairness happen... Take Action!
- Violation human rights is self condemnation.
• Human love human
• Change and decolonize our minds!
• Could be easier to think of protecting the human rights of someone of your own family?
• Denounce the agreements by the way Europe and countries who violates human rights
• Treat others as you want to be treated
• Where’s compassion?
• Open your eyes, open your mind, open your heart, open your arms.
• Open up happiness, open up borders
• Open border, we are not so special
• We are bored of the borders! Open them up!
• Peace and social welfare are conditions to avoid dramatic cases of migration. There is a European responsibility
• Stop pushing back people
• We are the human traffickers
• Europe is not a boat. Europe won’t be sinking. Europe’s culture won't disappear, they will multiply. Europe won't starve. No fear can justify violence! Stop violation of the human rights!

After having an exchange on the human rights issues to be addressed and possible messages to be delivered, the Group were divided into two teams and started to work on a concrete proposal of actions for the following day.

The locations were Central Station and Clemenceau, which witness a great flow of passes-by every day, including local residents and internationals. Two local volunteers were also involved and provided the teams with the language and technical support.
"What makes you move a mountain?" was the discussion topic hanging up in the busy district of Clemenceau where a lot of migrant people and local residents passed by. It attracted people to stop and ask why we asked this question. The Group got the chance to discuss with the public and get to know their opinions on migration, the rights of refugees, the freedom of movement etc. Meanwhile they could share information about the situations as well. Some people wrote down their comments or supportive words.
The participants invited the public to join in an engaging activity, where they were assigned to be in a specific role, such as “a young man of 27 year-old without a shelter”. On the ground there were zones of human-rights-related topics and with the guided questions, the public needed to think about whether the social situation and personal circumstances would allow him/her to move forward. This exercise provides us with the opportunity to think in others’ shoes and have a deeper reflection on the obstacles people face to access to the rights of human rights.
The path to “Human Rights For All” is not an easy task. Take a rest and share a juice while exchanging ideas on the human rights issues. There were mottos and phrases about human rights written on the glasses, which could be used as a conversation starter and such a non-formal setting could help create a relaxing environments and encourage inspirational and honest sharing of opinions and feelings.
The participants set up a street exhibition showcasing human rights issues, especially on the rights of migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and the freedom of movement. They
They were telling a story, a story in which a young girl tried to cross the Mediterranean sea and looked for a more decent life. She came across many difficulties, hunger, thirsty, motion sickness... the unbreakable border of the EU consisted of different governments and institutions! Meanwhile, on the other side of the border, there were a group of activists were advocating for the human rights of the migrant people. In the end the border is dissolved by the humanity and all parties united and welcomed this little girl from afar.

After each performance, the Group discussed with the public about how they felt about the devastating situations in the Mediterranean sea and other borders in the world.
After the street actions, it is important to have a debriefing moment and reflect from different aspects. Such experiences could be passed on to the sending organisations and future actions by the participants.

### REFLECTION OF ACTIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPACE</th>
<th>SETTING OF THE SCENE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| - People goes and comes: transit  
- Importance of knowing how the place is  
- Language barriers and cultural difference | - To have a space of dialogue, next to the ‘scene’  
- Delimitation of the space as scenario |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIONS PREPARED</th>
<th>MATERIALS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| - Importance of something that provokes interaction  
- Attraction  
- Process to get more and more into the topic with different activities | - Prepare something about the action  
- With background information |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPLEMENTATION</th>
<th>QUESTIONS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| - Flexibility, adaptation  
- New materials on the spot | - How to optimise the objectives?  
- Is your message clear to the target group?  
- What will you do with the result?  
- How do you measure the impact? |
What has been learnt during this training and done in Brussels is just a beginning, a beginning of more activism and civil engagement in the local context. The Group took one more step forward and started to reflect on possible proposals that they could carry on after this Event. To sum up, there are four main topics the Group would like to continue working:

- Booklets/handbooks on how to make workshops on migration issues in the Workcamps;
- Follow-up mechanism on migration projects;
- Improvisation of the Declaration (of the IVS) on migration and dissemination strategies.

There was a powerful finale for the whole event as the Group was invited to join in the Steenrock festival in solidarity to people in detention center near Brussels. People made the parade, shouted out loud slogans, hosted music concerts, organised workshops, held debates... all this livelihood sent a hopeful message to the people in the detention center – there are people that care about other people, care about humanity, care about human rights.
During the evaluation sessions (oral and written), the Group shared opinions about the event, including the logistics, learning process, objectives met, programme contents, work dynamics etc.

Here are some highlights of the comments from the participants:

**POSITIVE ELEMENTS**

“The visit to the detention center is very nice, a very nice closing”
“Very happy to have debates with those four speakers from the institutions”
“Mapping is really useful”
“Really learnt a lot when people shared the best practices and situations in their countries”
“I like this group, they are open-minded”

**THINGS TO BE IMPROVED**

“Would like to visit EU institutions”
“Would like to talk directly with immigrants”
“Not enough time to relax”
“Would like to have an expert on immigration to give general info on the first day”
CONCLUSION

We consider that this is a process of empowerment. Participants are already involved in their countries in initiatives regarding human rights and migrations, and through this process they got access to a global vision on the thematic, to networking resources, skills to raise awareness, and partners within and outside the IVS movement to potentiate the outreach and impact of their actions. The module of future actions allowed to draft actions such as tools to conduct study sessions in international workcamps on the thematic of migrations and human rights; possible international youth projects to work on the thematic and train multipliers and trainers; or actions to improve and distribute the declarations on Human Rights of the IVS movement.

The whole training can be summarised in a big thank you to every organisation, institution and participant involved, with a big commitment and the acknowledgement that the privilege of learning and acting takes us to the duty to be engaged, to develop networking, to implement the complementary potentials of all actors to promote, to empower and to raise awareness towards the guarantee of human rights for every person.

“The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families is an United Nations multilateral treaty governing the protection of migrant workers and families.”
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