



## ROMA YOUTH, EUROPEAN YOUTH

TRAINING COURSE ON TOLERANCE

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IAȘI, ROMANIA



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#### Introduction



This e-booklet provides a comprehensive overview of the training course "Roma Youth, European Youth," which was organised by the Association for the Social Integration of Roma "Help Gipsy" (APISRHG) in collaboration with partners from Hungary, Greece, Turkey, Italy, Finland, Lithuania, the Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Macedonia, and France. The main objective of the training course was to provide youth workers with the skills and knowledge necessary to effectively use theatre techniques in their work with minority youth, including migrants and refugees. The training focused on practical skills and tools that youth workers could use to promote the well-being, empowerment, and advocacy of minority youth, with a particular emphasis on the Roma community in Romania.

The inclusion of marginalised young people is of paramount importance in contemporary society. Marginalised young people, including Roma and other minorities, are frequently denied access to basic human rights such as education, healthcare, and socialisation. The training course aimed to provide youth workers with the tools and knowledge necessary to improve the lives of marginalised young people by using theatre techniques as a means of promoting their well-being, empowerment, and advocacy.

Europe is home to a significant number of minority communities, including the Roma community. These communities are often subject to discrimination in the areas of education, healthcare, and socialisation, among others. The training course recognised the importance of understanding the challenges faced by minority communities and the importance of working with these communities to promote social inclusion and empowerment.

Finally, the training course emphasised the importance of quality and innovation in youth work. Quality and innovation are essential components of effective youth work, as they allow youth workers to engage with young people in meaningful ways, promote the development of essential skills and provide opportunities for personal and professional growth. By incorporating theatre techniques into youth work, youth workers are better able to meet the needs of young people from marginalised communities and promote their social inclusion and empowerment.

#### Understanding Marginalisation and the Needs of Marginalised Young People

Marginalisation refers to the process of excluding individuals or groups from social, political, economic, or cultural systems, resulting in their social and economic disadvantages. Marginalisation is a significant issue affecting young people in Europe, particularly those who belong to minority groups, migrants, and refugees. It can have a profound impact on their development, their sense of identity, and their prospects for the future.

Marginalised young people face numerous challenges, including discrimination, exclusion, and a lack of opportunities. Discrimination against marginalised young people is often based on stereotypes, prejudice, and negative attitudes towards certain groups. This discrimination can limit their access to education, employment, healthcare, and other basic rights, which can further perpetuate their marginalisation. Exclusion from society can lead to feelings of isolation, loneliness, and depression, which can have long-term negative effects on mental health. Lack of opportunities can make it difficult for marginalised young people to break the cycle of poverty and social exclusion and can limit their chances for upward mobility.

In order to promote the inclusion of marginalised young people, it is crucial to understand their needs and perspectives. This includes acknowledging the impact of discrimination and exclusion on their lives and recognising their potential as active members of society. By taking a needs-based approach to youth work, we can work to address the challenges faced by marginalised young people and provide them with the tools and support they need to achieve their full potential. By promoting social inclusion and empowering marginalised young people, we can build stronger and more cohesive communities and promote a more just and equitable society.





#### Inclusive Youth Work for Marginalised Young People



Inclusive youth work is based on the principles of social justice and equality, and strives to create an environment in which young people from all backgrounds feel safe, valued, and included. Inclusive youth work recognises the diversity of young people's experiences and backgrounds, and is committed to addressing the barriers that prevent marginalised young people from fully participating in society.

Youth workers play a critical role in promoting the inclusion of marginalised young people. They must be committed to understanding the needs and experiences of the young people they work with, and to developing strategies to address the barriers to inclusion that these young people face. This includes working closely with other professionals and organisations, such as schools, community centres, and social services, in order to provide a holistic and coordinated approach to youth work.





Best practices in inclusive youth work include the use of participatory approaches, such as youth-led projects and peer mentoring, as well as the involvement of young people in decision-making processes. Inclusive youth work must also be responsive to the changing needs of marginalised young people, and must be willing to adapt and evolve in order to remain effective.



# Working with Roma and Other Minority Communities





Roma and other minority communities have long faced significant challenges in Europe. These challenges include systemic discrimination, marginalisation, and lack of access to resources, such as healthcare and education. These communities have also historically faced significant societal and cultural barriers that make it challenging for them to access opportunities and engage with broader society. While there have been some efforts to address these issues, there is still much work to be done in ensuring that these communities are fully integrated and included in European societies.





Working with Roma and other minority communities requires a significant degree of cultural sensitivity and understanding. Youth workers must be aware of the unique challenges that these communities face and be able to adapt their approaches accordingly. This includes being aware of cultural differences and finding ways to engage with these communities in a way that is respectful and inclusive.

### Quality and Innovation in Youth Work

Quality and innovation in youth work involve a continuous process of learning and improvement to enhance the effectiveness of youth work activities. Quality refers to the standards, values, and principles that guide youth work, while innovation involves the development of new and creative ways of engaging young people and achieving the objectives of youth work.

Youth workers play a critical role in promoting quality and innovation in youth work by adopting a learner-centred approach, continuously reflecting on their practice, and seeking to improve their skills and knowledge. They also need to be open to new ideas and willing to experiment with different methods and approaches to engage young people effectively.



Best practices and innovative approaches in quality and innovative youth work involve a range of strategies, such as using participatory approaches that involve young people in the design and implementation of activities, developing programmes that are relevant to young people's needs and interests, and using creative techniques to facilitate learning and engagement.

Moreover, quality youth work is based on ethical principles such as respect for diversity, inclusion, and social justice. In this context, youth workers need to be culturally sensitive and understand the different backgrounds and experiences of the young people they work with to ensure that their programmes are inclusive and accessible to all.

In conclusion, quality and innovation are essential aspects of effective youth work that requires youth workers to adopt a continuous learning approach and use best practices and innovative approaches to engage young people effectively.





#### Conclusion

In this e-booklet, we have explored the importance of promoting inclusion, working with minority communities, and quality and innovation in youth work. We began by discussing the objectives of our training course, which aimed to provide youth workers with the skills and knowledge to effectively use theatre techniques in their work with marginalised young people, including those from minority communities. We highlighted the challenges faced by marginalised young people, including discrimination, exclusion, and lack of opportunities, and the importance of understanding their needs in order to promote their inclusion.

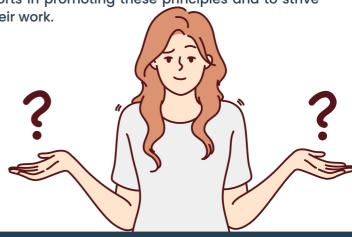
We then discussed inclusive youth work principles and strategies, emphasising the importance of creating safe and welcoming spaces for marginalised young people and the role of youth workers in promoting their inclusion. We also highlighted best practices and innovative approaches in inclusive youth work, such as the use of drama and theatre techniques.

Next, we explored the challenges faced by Roma and other minority communities in Europe, including discrimination, marginalisation, and lack of access to resources. We emphasised the importance of cultural sensitivity and understanding in working with these communities and highlighted best practices and innovative approaches in working with them.

Finally, we discussed the importance of quality and innovation in youth work, emphasising the need for continuous learning and improvement. We highlighted best practices and innovative approaches in quality and innovative youth work and explained the role of youth workers in promoting these principles.

In conclusion, promoting inclusion, working with minority communities, and quality and innovation in youth work are crucial for the well-being and empowerment of young people. We call on youth workers to continue their efforts in promoting these principles and to strive for centinuous loggering and improvement in their work.









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