
Press Release - Berlin, 27 January 2020

STAR E - Standing Together Against Racism in Europe

Within the framework of the "STAR E" project, two conference and workshop days for multipliers will take place in the Berlin "Global Village" in February and March. "STAR E" is a European partnership project for the "development of innovation" funded by the EU Erasmus+ programme. ICJA Freiwilligenaustausch weltweit e.V. has been coordinating it since August 2017 on behalf of a consortium of nine partner organisations from eight EU countries and is now presenting the results within the framework of two practical days with workshop character.

Conference and workshop days for actors in formal and non-formal political education of Berlin

On 20.02.2020 and on 12.03.2020 the results in the form of two publications will be presented to an audience of practitioners, experts and multipliers* of political education work and to representatives of youth education organisations in Berlin. Experts in this field will provide input on the topic areas racism sensitization and diversity oriented change management followed by a discussion with the participants. In the workshop part, methods and tools will be introduced and practical exercises will be made in order to get to learn how to work with the respective handbook. The 4-hour programme will be a good opportunity for networking and developing cooperation.

Practice Day 1 on 20.02.2020: "Standing Together Against Racism - Methods for Anti-Racism Work and Empowerment Training in Political Education Work".

Practice Day 2 on 12.03.2020: "Tools for Change - Diversity-oriented change processes in NGOs".

Together against racism

The fight against racism at all levels of educational work and structures of the coordinating organization ICJA and its European partner organisations is the leitmotif of the STAR E project. The aim of the project is to recognise and tackle racism in one's own attitudes and actions as well as in one's own organisation and the respective environment. This requires a profound engagement with the topic of racism by full-time and voluntary employees of the participating organisations. The STAR E project offered the opportunity to establish European cooperation on this topic in order to initiate positive change processes. With the help of professional support from the expert organisations *SOCIUS Organisationsberatung gGmbH* and *UNITED for Intercultural Action*, the participating youth organisations from Denmark, Germany, Finland, France, Iceland, Slovakia and the United Kingdom were able to develop strategically and qualitatively.

From goal to result

The process began with the development, elaboration and testing of practical tools, models and methods for the political education work of the participating organisations in the fields of anti-racism education work and diversity-oriented organisational development. The joint learning and working was successful. The organisations have reoriented themselves methodically and strategically by initiating processes of change. The experiences made in this process are important project results. They can and should encourage other organisations to question their work in these areas. To assist them in this process, the following handbooks were published and are available in print and digital form on the project website as of February 2020.

Publication 1: "Standing Together Against Racism - A Training Handbook

Publication 2: "Managing Organisational Change. Tools and Methods to Become a Diversity-Sensitive NGO

What is still being planned

After the conference and workshop days in Berlin, a final event with all STAR E partner organisations will take place in April 2020 in Copenhagen, Denmark. Among other things, a series of further training courses will be developed there to train multipliers throughout Europe in the use of the methods and tools.

The coordinating organisation

ICJA Volunteer Exchange Worldwide a registered non-profit youth and voluntary service organisation sees itself as an educational institution that wants to make young people aware of the important issues of globalisation development through long-term volunteer services or short-term work camps. The main focus of our educational projects is on the North-South divide, peace, flight and asylum, anti-racism, intercultural competence and sustainability.

Further information:

About the Star E project at European Level: <https://star-e.icja.de/>

About the Conferences in Berlin: <star-e-multiplier-events-icja-berlin>

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About ICJA Volunteer Exchange worldwide: www.icja.de

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