

Participation sans toi(t)?! - Without you?
- Participation without a roof!

DONOR: EU
PROGRAMME: LIFE LONG LEARNING,
GRUNDTVIG
GRANT: 88 000 EUR
YEARS: 2012-2014



The title of the project is a pun in French, it combines the words you “toi” and roof “toit”, Participation sans toi(t)?! i.e., Participation without you/without roof.

Partners:

1. **Berliner Arbeitskreis für politische Bildung e.V. (bapob)**, Berlin Working Group for Political Education e.V., Germany - coordinator
2. **Fédération Nationale des Association d'Accueil et de Réinsertion sociale région Midi-Pyrénées (Fnars)**, National Federation of Social Reintegration Association Midi-Pyrénées region, France
3. **Glasgow Homelessness Network ('GHN')**, UK
4. **Union des Villes et Communes de Wallonie**, Union of Towns and Municipalities of Wallonia Belgium
5. **Oltalom Karitatív Egyesület**, Oltalom Charity Society, Hungary

Project summary: The partnership is based on the participation of homeless people and in those in need. The issue of participation rests at individual (life-ability), organizational (place of target group in the social structure) and political (commitment to their rights) levels. Various actors in the social field, social workers, people living in deep poverty, volunteers and association leaders met to share their experiences and develop their knowledge in order to improve the participation of the homeless and excluded in the decisions that affect them.



Aims and strategy of the project: The main activity of the project is to organize meetings in the partner countries with the actors of the social care system, employees of non-governmental organizations, volunteers, members of the target group. Five professional exchanges took place within the project. After a theoretical, research phase in which a thorough situation analysis was prepared in each country, exchanges began.



Participants visited specific social institutions: they could meet the actors of the state and civil care system, take part in internships, trainings, get acquainted with the tried and tested good practices in the given places: December 2012 Berlin, April 2013 Toulouse, September 2013 Namur, January 2014 Glasgow and finally May 2014 Budapest. Due to the nature of the project, homeless or previously homeless people also took part in the exchanges: their selection required great care (minimum language skills, communication skills, ability to concentrate, openness to the new environment).



As a result of the project, 20 target group members and 4 professionals from the Oltalom were able to participate in training and exchange of experience. The Scottish Partner provided participants with its own Toolkit, used and proven in their own practice, which provides a practical toolkit for participants. The 76-page document in English was prepared by the Participation Working Group of the European umbrella organization FEANTSA (French: Fédération Européenne des Associations Nationales Travaillant avec les Sans-Abri, English: European Federation of European Organizations Working with the Homeless). Oltalom also had the opportunity to add substantive suggestions to the working document and use it later in its training and practice.