



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

ACT FOR SOCIETY

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Who are we?

ACT for SOCIETY Centre, was established in January 2012.

ACT for SOCIETY Centre believes in the power of change. It aims at making this change happen through "...new, creative, and effective strategies and initiatives..." ACT for SOCIETY Centre recognizes that Albanian's young democracy must become increasingly self-reliant and lead its own development. In the current situation, the pressing need is to encourage a greater capacity development, awareness, and participation by Albanian institutions and local communities.

ACT for SOCIETY Centre also believes that best results are produced through the right combination of development project integrating strong capacity building development, thus enabling project actors and beneficiaries to implement effective and efficient projects that also provide for impact on society and sustainability of results. ACT for SOCIETY Centre experience suggests that any strategy to achieve these ends, must incorporate an individualized approach to catalyzing change, and combine training in leadership and organizational dynamics with on-site technical assistance, mentorship and specific subject technical expertise. Organization and individual skills are both needed.

Mission

ACT for SOCIETY Centre Mission is to enhance the healthy lifestyles and stimulate the sustainable development of society, it's work consists on promoting culture, advocating for democracy and human right issues, connecting young's, stimulating the active participation in the social live and decision-making processes.

Meet our team

PhD. Candidate on Int. Relations. Has Studied in Social Sciences SOCIOLOGY, and MSC International Relations. She has been trained on social issues and by the EU Commission training programs. She is also a lecturer to an Albanian University. Mrs. Pengili has been a trainer on youth programs especially on youth workers issues, gender equality projects, human rights and democracy etc. Recently, she has been engaged as a research assistant within an Albanian university.



Executive Director – Armela Pengili

Xhoi is graduated in International Relations at the European University of Tirana and is currently a Master of Science in European Policies and Governance at the Institute of European Studies. He is the Program Manager of Democracy and Anticorruption Program, and also a team leader in "Men and Boys as Partners in Promoting Gender Equality and Prevention of Youth Extremism and Violence in the Balkans" under the framework of CARE International in Balkans. Xhoi has been trained on leadership programs for youth leaders, politics issues, human rights and democracies, project management and peer education, and is a trainer in youth programs on human rights, gender equality and violent extremism. the civil society sector since 2013. Xhoi continuously works on different sociocultural projects and programs, which aim at exposing and handling the problems facing young Albanians today.



Program Manager & PR – Xhoi Bare

Meet our team

Nertila Meçani is currently studying Psychology, Faculty of Social Sciences at Tirana University. She is Project Coordinator. Nertila was part of a short-term EVS in Turkey where she worked with children with disabilities. She has been trained in program management, human rights and democracy and has expertise in working with children. Nertila has been involved in the civil society sector since 2016 working primarily as a volunteer and she has been part of training's and conferences. Her devotion and skills have shown her to be a promising young professional



Program Manager – Nertila Meçani

Cindy graduated in Finance from the Faculty of Economics in Tirana. She is the CARE Program Financier.

Cindy is trained in various leadership and financial management programs. She has previous work experience with Organizations such as UNWomen and UNDP and has also assisted in EU funded projects.



Financier – Sindi Bande

Meet our team

Krista Sila. She is 18 years old and currently a senior in Tirana. She has been part of the BMC for a long time and has been training for three years for several different social topics such as “What is this thing called gender”, “Labels, prejudices, discrimination”, “Identity Columns” and so forth. Her passion is painting because she believes that through art she can bring colors to the society. She is a facilitator in “Men and Boys as Partners in Promoting Gender Equality and the Prevention of Youth Extremism and Violence in the Balkans” project under the framework of CARE International in Balkans.



Facilitator- Krista Sila

This is Klodian Çelmeta. He is 19 years old and currently studying in Tirana for Imaging Techniques and Radiotherapy. He has been part of the BMC for a while and also has been part of some projects mainly focused on cultural discrimination such as “Young to young” and “Western Balkans youth together for shared Future” both from RYCO. One of his biggest passion is acting because he believes that acting is all about exploring human soul. He is a facilitator in “Men and Boys as Partners in Promoting Gender Equality and the Prevention of Youth Extremism and Violence in the Balkans” project under the framework of CARE International in Balkans.



Facilitator- Klodian Çelmeta

OUR PROJECTS



Young men initiative

Young men initiative is a regional platform of organizations, converted by **CARE International Balkans**. It builds on CARE's comprehensive and programmatic efforts to prevent interpersonal and gender-based violence as well as to promote gender equality in the region.



This project closed their 3rd successful year implanted in Albania. The project expended up to 8 schools of Albania making this pandemic year really important. Since this was the last year of the project it had to be the most special, don't worry it's not the end it's just a new beginning.

This year the **BMC** club and other interested youth was part of two adventures, our traditional summer camp, where they spent 4 days in the beach, learned how to solve conflicts, respecting each other regarding gender and most importantly had so much fun with different educative and fun games. The second one, which was new this year was the Y+ Conference in **Kruja**.



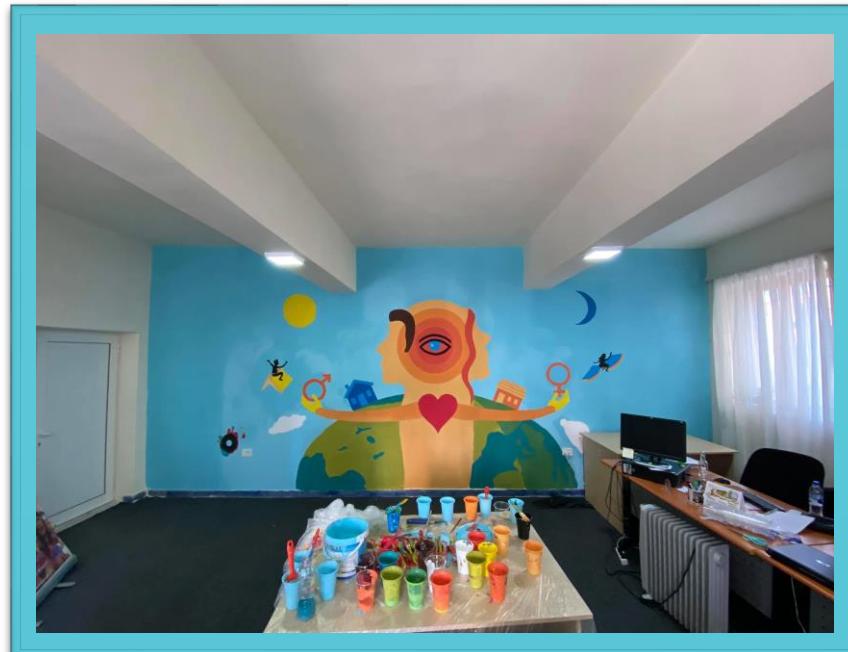
To conclude it all was the Future4Youth conference with all the Balkan countries part of the project. Each of the countries had a breakout session with special guests and they all talked about the importance of the Life Skills Education to be part of the Albanian school's system and they all agreed we are in the right path.

OUR PROJECTS



Artists create together

ACT – Artists Create Together projects which started in October 2018 and ends in March 2021 and is finances by Netherlands Enterprise Agency aims to increase the awareness of the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals through art and music by empowering youngsters and marginalized groups. The projects include 4 building blocks: summits, music concerts, storytelling and wall of connections (murals). The focus of the project in Albania, was towards SDG nr4, Gender Equality and all the activities as well, aimed to promote gender equality in Albania.



During 2020 we organized:

5 Murals Wall of Connections in Pogradec City were more than 70 students joined to paints all together the walls in their high schools and youth center

“ACT the future is online” summit was held online were more than 300 youngsters participated in 7 different workshops

Online Virtual Concert with Olta Boka and Roel Van Velsen for European Week with more than 50000 people who joined the concert

“Tirana Art Fest” music festival with 50 schools, 500 performances by talented youths and both live and online concert with more than 200000 visualizations.



OUR PROJECTS



Youth and Adolescence

Youth and Adolescence is an ongoing project with 2 main components: Young Men Initiative Scaling Up project builds upon CARE's comprehensive and programmatic effort to fight interpersonal and gender based violence (GBV) as well as to improve gender equality in the region and address preventative issues related to youth extremism and violence.



It was funded by **UNFPA** Albania to continue its work in Kruja Municipality in "Skenderbeu" High School and to extend BMC in 8 different cities in Albania. The second component is the nationwide study which was conducted in 12 cities in Albania entitled: "Gender differences in parenting styles and their impact on parent-child relationships". This research aims to analyze parenting styles, gender differences and their impact on parent-child relationships.



OUR PROJECTS



Young2Young

The main objective of the project is to contribute to the process of reconciliation and intercultural dialogue in the Western Balkans through the capacity building of young people to prepare and perform theater performances. For this purpose, we will increase the awareness of young people from Albania and Serbia about the need for reconciliation and intercultural dialogue through a set of workshops as well as increasing mobility and youth exchange between the two countries and we will promote tolerance and cultural diversity through the playing of theater performances in 6 different cities in two countries.



This short film is produced with the support of the Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO) and United Nations Peacebuildin Fund (UNPBF). The short film was directed by Xhuliano Brisku. The movie talks about bullying, mental health and youth problems. It is called Print to represent how everything that happens in our life leaves a print good or bad.



OUR PROJECTS



This project is funded by
the European Union

Europe respects Human rights

Raising awareness of people on the importance of independent institutions as human right defenders and the EU accession process is also a very important activity. We had 5 open / consultative meetings with representatives of independent institutions, local institutions, local CSOs, local media, students and citizens. The open /consultative meetings took place in Tirana, Elbasan and Shkodra. They had a wide participation and were used to support the local CSOs in the EU accession process and to raise awareness of people.

The meetings gave information on the importance of the independent institutions in protection of fundamental rights as well as informed how the empowerment of such institutions can affect the road of Albania toward the European Union. We used the university's audiences in the three chosen cities to have such meeting and invited a large number of people. A panel with representatives of Independent institutions, local institutions, local NGO and media took place in each of these meetings, meanwhile the audience had students, but even other interested citizens. We aimed the involvement of the young generation as the main force to improve the situation of understanding in our country.



CAMPAIGNS



Be a man

"Be a man" lifestyles campaign, which aims to reinforce key messages of the Young Men Initiative and encourage changes at the school level and beyond. The campaign is supported by variety of educational materials, social media and "activities" organized and conducted by the students, members of "Be a man" clubs (abbreviated BMC). Members of "Be a man" clubs are both young men and women, and in the region they gather several hundred active members. In the Balkans, there are currently 40 active "Be a man" clubs with 1,500 active members. Leading philosophy of the Young Men Initiative is that young men should not be seen as an obstacle to peace and gender equality, but as key allies in the promotion of non-violent, healthy relationships and communities. Young women, as active members of the community, should be active participants in society, as well as agents of change.



"Be a man club" closed yet another very successful year. 2020 was a very hard year for the members and the whole world. The online meetings could not stop us, we continued to work with BMC members and dedicated meetings only to their mental health during quarantine. The club came up with the idea of a mascot, a dove to promote peace and avoid conflicts between young people, to discuss our characteristics and to understand what made us equal. During these times we encouraged the young men members to share their experiences during the isolation and pointing out their help with the household chores and how they continued to do them even after isolation.



CAMPAIGNS



Are you ok?

Are u OK? “Be a man” club in cooperation with ACT for SOCIETY Centre and the CARE International Balkans has launched a campaign aimed at starting the conversation on mental health of young people.

THE GOAL OF THE CAMPAIGN:

Promotion of prosocial behavior among young people in high school (14 to 20 years old). To change culture, make the school a supportive environment for young people.



Challenge: to encourage observers, but not to burden them with new responsibilities.

The importance of this campaign was significant during 2020, encouraging young people to talk about their feelings more during the challenging quarantine. For the celebration of Mental Health day “Be a Man Club” gave a massage through a video. Listening without judging, respecting and providing support as a real friend can put down any negative feelings. Happiness is contagious.

MASTERPEACE ALBANIA



- Masterpeace Albania has joined MasterPeace Global in 2013. The aim of masterpeace is to use the soft power of music, art, sports and games to mobilize and inspire young people also to promote peace worldwide.
- We have organized every year meetings and various activities for International Peace day; such as marching, murals and gatherings with the youngsters.
- Since October 2018, we are part of the project ACT - Artist Create Together which aims to make the society more aware about SDG's through music, summits, wall of connections and storytelling.

INTERNATIONAL DAYS



Father's Day- 21st June



Father's Day is celebrated all over the world to recognize the contribution that fathers and father figures make to the lives of their children. This day celebrates male fatherhood and parenting. Sharing daily parenting tips for fathers: Being a committed, supportive, and loving father.

International Days



Youth day, picnic with Y-peer

Act for Society in collaboration with Y-peer, Albania Network in the framework of the international Youth day of this year 2020, with the theme: “Youth Engagement for Global Action” organized Youth activity in Artificial Lake of Tirana. The activity aimed at discussing and reflecting on the commitment of young people and their importance as volunteers and citizens.



Youth Day



INTERNATIONAL DAYS



National day of family- 7th March



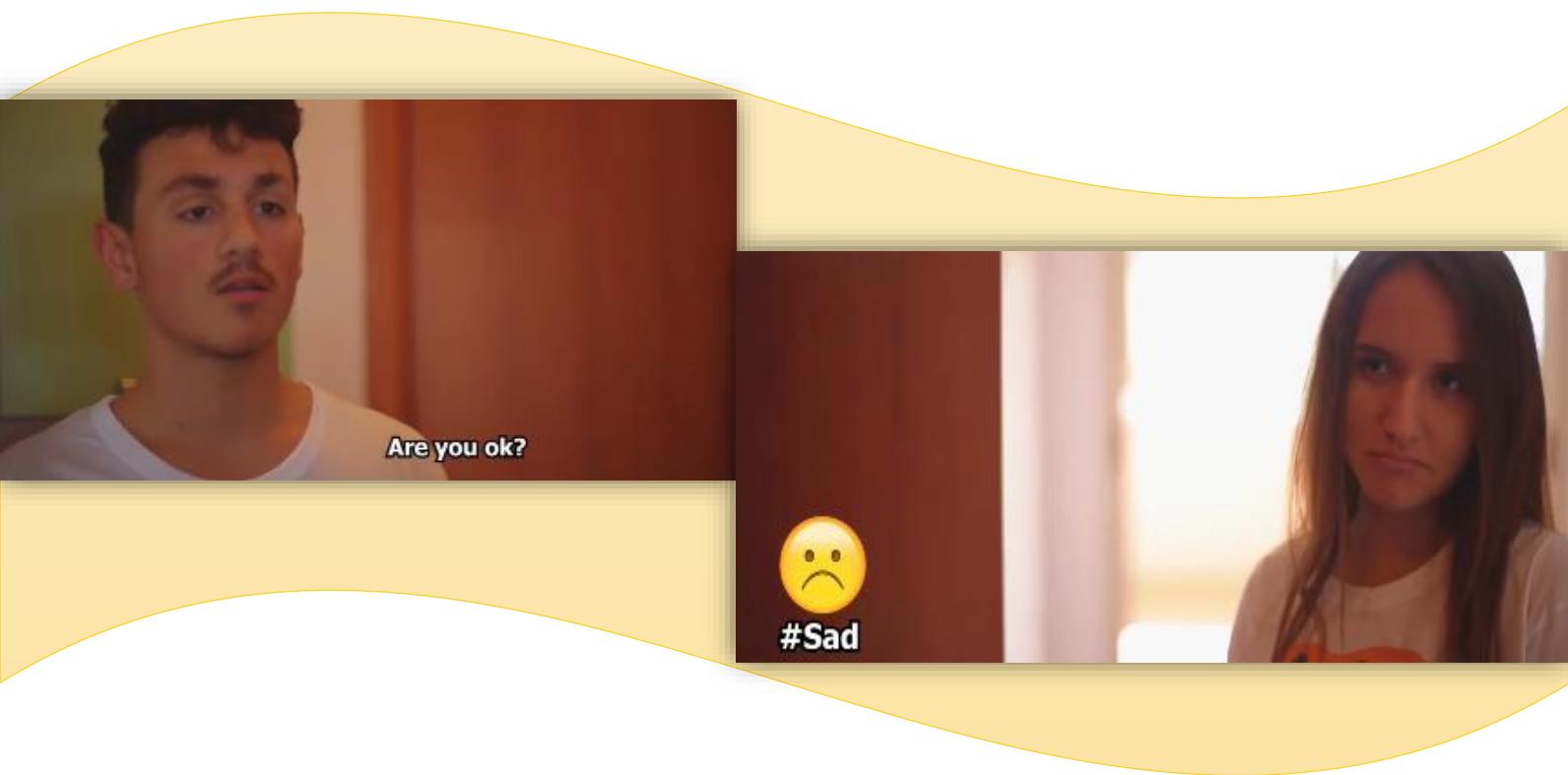
If you want to watch the full meeting with professor Erion Kristo, click the link:

<https://www.facebook.com/511955285555819/videos/1046293405771037>

INTERNATIONAL DAYS



10th of October- Mental health day, Are you ok?



If you want to watch the full video,
click the link:
<https://www.facebook.com/511955285555819/videos/1224716051221738>

INTERNATIONAL DAYS



Week of integrity- 1st December till 9th December

 Java e Integritetit

Për mua integritet do të thotë të zgjohesh cdo mëngjes i vetëdijshëm që ke një mision të rënësishëm nëpër supër, të mbrosh dhe promovosh vlerat dhe karakteristikat e një shoqërie të zhvilluar dhe të garantosh transparencë në vendimarrjen dhe përgjegjësitë ë tua.

XHOI BARE



 Java e Integritetit

Për mendimin tim, një përsone me integritet, është dikush që krijon besim tek njerezit e tjere nëpërmjet fjalëve dhe veprave të tij

ALVI DERVISHI



 Java e Integritetit

Integriteti përmua është mundësia për të hyrë në BE. Duke u edukuar si qytetarë europian ne mësojmë të njohim e të respektojmë hapësirene e gjithsejilit, përgjegjësitë morale dhe qytetare që duhet të zbatojnë në cdo ambient. Duke u integruar në mes të një shoqërie që ka shumë vite që ecen para, ne mësojmë të kapërcejmë veten.

OLA SEJKO



 Java e Integritetit

"Integriteti është qëndrueshmëria, këmbëngulja, besimi ndaj vetes dhe ndaj të tjerrëve, vendosmëria në marjen e vendimeve si dhe përgjegjishmëria për të gjitha veprimet që kryen"

KRISTA SILA



INTERNATIONAL DAYS



16 days of activism - 25th November till 10th December

Social media posts explaining terms like sexism, masculinity, gender etc.

Tea-talk in cooperation with y-peer, an expert from Y-peer was invited to talk about reproductive sexual health, gender equality and the contribution youth can give about these topics.

Online meeting with y-peer, discussion about Gender-based Violence and sexual reproduction Health.

“Movie that matter” “Mai khoi and the dissidents”, the story of a Vietnamese pop star who became a symbol of the movement for democracy and human rights in Vietnam. The film was accompanied by a discussion about the current situation of freedom of speech and democracy in our country, by the young people of the Be a Man Club.



MASKULITETI

*Mënyra se si burrat Jane socializuar, ligjërimet dhe praktikat që janë të lidhura me mënyrat e ndryshme të të qenit burrë.
Shkurtimisht, çfarë do të thotë të jesh burrë."*



PATRIARKALITETI
Një sistem i shoqërisë ose i qeverisë në të cilën burrat kanë statusin dhe fuqinë dhe gratë janë kryesish të përfashtuara nga të dyja.



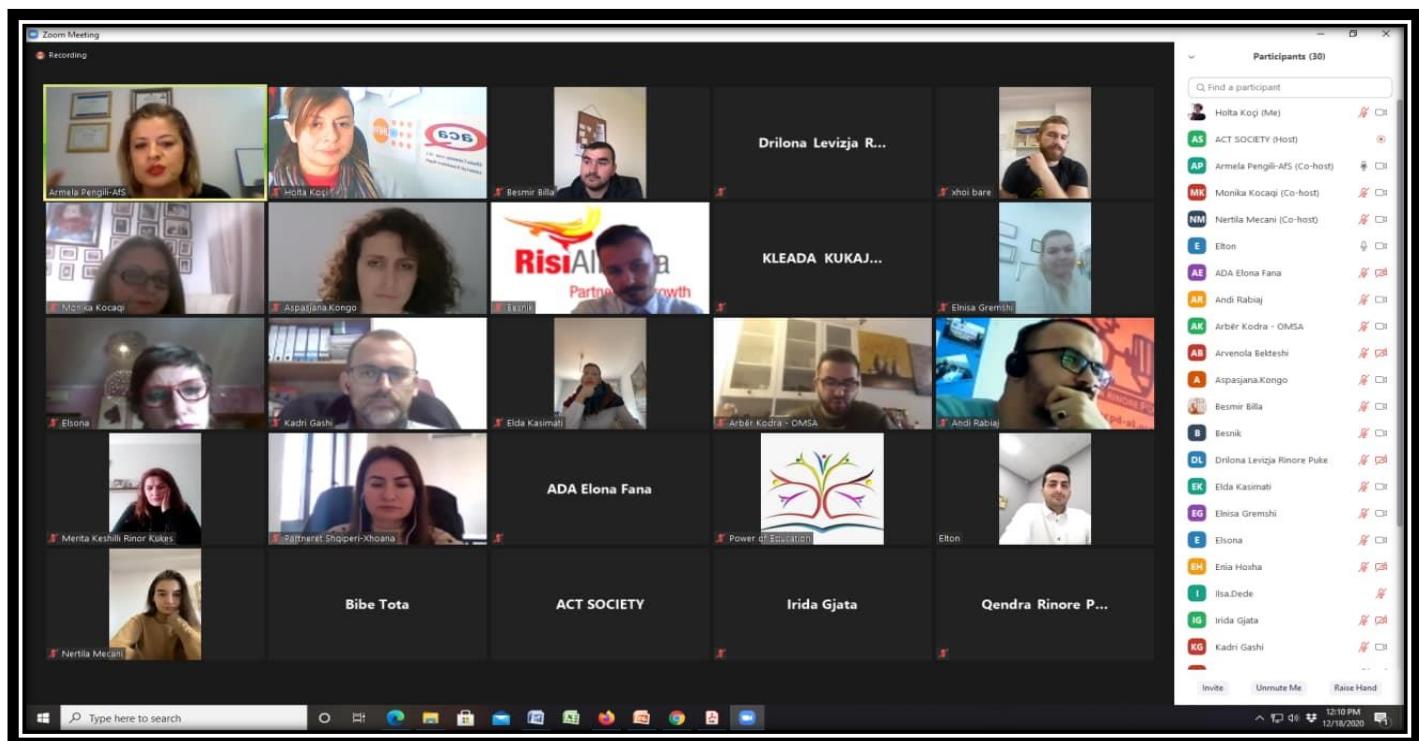
SEKSIZMI
Seksizmi ose diskriminimi gjinor është paragjykim apo diskriminim i bazuar në gjininë ose seksin e një personi. Seksizmi mund të ndikojë në të dyja gjinjtë, por është dokumentuar në një mënyrë të veantë si i ndikon gratë dhe vajzat.

National Study

"Gender differences in parenting and their impact on the parent-child relationship in Albania"

This study was prepared by Center ACT for SOCIETY with coordination of Albania Community Assist, with the support of the United Nation Population Fund Office in Albania (UNFPA) in cooperation with the Ministry of Health and Social Protection and coordination with the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, within of the United Nations Joint Program, "End violence Against Women and Girls", funded by the Government of Sweden and implanted by UNDP, UN Women and UNFPA in partnership with the Government of Albania.

The study was implemented in 12 cities of which focuses on gender differences in parenting and their impact on the daily life of parent-child relations in Albania. Two study experts presented the main findings of the study, bringing recommendations for parents, institutions and schools for a healthier parent-child relationship.



National Surveys

The impact of social isolation on mental health and intimate relationships

The emergence of COVID-19 as a public health emergency by the World Health Organization has led to a number of precautionary measures such as quarantines, social distancing or in some cases total lockdown in region or countries around the world. Center ACT for SOCIETY supported by UNFPA Albania and Sweden Sverige, took action and decided to conduct a research which aimed to understand the Impact of Social Isolation on Mental Health and Intimate Relations.

MentalHealth

Let's talk about it.



The online questionnaire was completed by 746 people from many cities in Albania and in a significant number of counties.

National Surveys

“Youth health during the period of social and physical isolation caused by COVID19”

COVID-19 and to create interventions based on data. The emergence of COVID-19 as a public health emergency by the World Health Organization has led to a number of precautionary measures such as quarantines, social distancing or in some cases total lockdown in region or countries around the world. This study aimed to identify some of the barriers / challenges and needs for health services related especially to the sexual and reproductive health of young people during social isolation and quarantine, as a result of the pandemic caused by

The study also describes and analyzes other problems associated with social isolation and quarantine such as mental health, parent-adolescent relationships, abuse of high-risk substances such as alcohol. The study does not introduce in depth analysis but only aims to describe the situation in which young people are but also to confront the studies conducted during this period but also in other situations of natural disaster.



With funding from
Austrian Development Cooperation



**SHËNDETI I TË RINJVE GJATË PERIUDHËS
SË IZOLIMIT SOCIAL DHE FIZIK
TË SHKAKTUAR NGA COVID19.**

RAPORT DHE REKOMANDIME



Conferences Trainings

Discrimination and cultural prejudices

Discrimination and cultural prejudices- two-day training. In the framework of the “Young2Young” project, a training on “Discrimination and Cultural Prejudice” was held. The young people part of the project were trained to better understand Stereotypes, Discrimination and Prejudice, how they affect the daily life of each of us and what change we can start from ourselves to have a change in the community where we live.



Conferences Trainings

Talking about
Human Rights

21 September

“Talking about Human Rights” was held on 21st of September. This date is also International Day of Peace. The purpose of the conference was to inform about the importance of independent institutions in the protection of fundamental human rights, as well as to inform how the strengthening of such institutions can affect Albania's path towards the European Union.

This format was chosen as an indirect way of targeting radicalization and extremism. Talking about human rights broadly and from several institutional perspectives sparked curiosity and conversation among the young men and women as well as the teachers attending the conference.



Conferences Trainings

Vulnerable youth
and extremism

14th and 15th November

"Vulnerable youth and extremism" was held on 14th and 15th of November. The main goal was to teach young people to prevent violent behavior by using their education and offering them on positive thinking and developing conflict resolution skills by using effective communication and tolerance.

This conference helped the youngsters and the institutions to be more aware of the violent behaviors and how to use education as a tool to prevent extremism between the youngsters.



Trainings

We have trained more than 1000 participants in our activities such as :

Directly: 1000
Indirectly: 60000

conferences

trainings

workshops

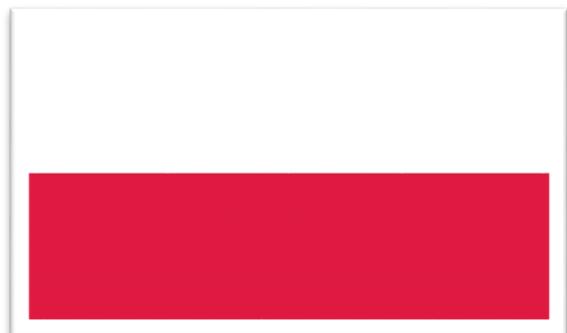
summits

Erasmus 2020



**“Good leadership-successful
youth exchange”**

“Mindfulness for Tolerance”



Our donors



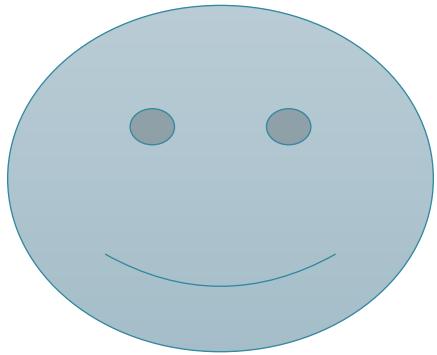
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