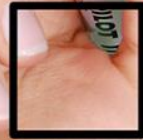


ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Center ACT for SOCIETY



A word from the president...



The year we left behind has been a year full of success stories.

We have continued the projects of previous years and have challenged ourselves with new and innovative projects to make an impact in our society.

Center Act for Society by means of this report shows the dedication and good will of the board and all the staff for the commitment made, reflected in the mission of the center that is the promotion of a healthy lifestyle, and to stimulate the sustainable development of society and we strive to achieve this through our contribution to democratization process & good governance, to fight against corruption, and to support vulnerable groups of Albanian society as well.

A special thanks goes to all our partners and donors who have supported us throughout the year, in our challenges. I also thank our staff for the great work they have done and I would like to invite everyone who still believes in good things and want to leave their mark by giving something back to the community, to join us and to “finish this journey” together.

Sincerely,
Armela PENGILI
Executive Director

TABLE OF CONTENTS



1. “ACT for SOCIETY” Centre, who are we?
2. Networks we are part of & our partners
3. “ACT for SOCIETY” Centre Activities
4. Member Activities
5. Erasmus+ projects
6. How do we keep connected?





WHO ARE WE?



We are an Albanian NGO, established in January 2012, with a special focus on young generation and European values.

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 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. Insistence on high standards of quality and accountability cannot be compromised. It recognizes the importance of developing effective advocacy skills and the effectiveness of coalitions of communities, NGOs, local government and business. ACT for SOCIETY Centre has immensely invested in human resources development. Upon its establishment, staff received comprehensive training and technical support including training retreats, training of trainers/training of consultants, regional internships, and on-the-job training that is followed by continuous professional and personal development.



We are Accredited for EVS (European Volunteer Service)- **Sending and Coordinating Organisation** with code 2015-1-SI02-KA110-013235 within the European Commission's Erasmus+/ Youth in Action Programme.

Its Objectives are:

Promote human rights and inclusiveness of marginalized groups having in focus gender issues, Roma community, and other vulnerable groups;
Enhance youth activities, initiatives and projects;
Stimulate good governance, fight of corruption and transparency;
Embrace think-tank ideology and stimulate research;
Active participation in international, regional and national networks;
Peace – Building through Culture and Art

Our 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.*

MEMBERS



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – ARMELA PENGILI

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 comission training programmes. She is also a lector to an Albanian University. Mrs. Armela has been a trainer on youth programmes 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.

STELA KOSOVA

Stela Kosova has been part of Center ACT for SOCIETY since 2016. She is the Program Manager of Social Development and Human Right Program, and has been coordinating several projects with a specific focus on youth, gender, and youth extremism. Stela is also a student in Master of Science in Administration of Social Services, Faculty of Social Sciences, Tirana University. She has been graduated in Administration and Social Policy who showed herself to be a promising young specialist, with excellent academic achievements and performance in this field. She has been engaged with national and international scientific conferences, internships, trainings, seminars and workshops related with social area. She aspires to continue after the graduation, a master of science with a particular focus on social policies, and later on to get specialized by doctoral studies.





XHOI BARE – PR/PROJECT MANAGER

He is studying International Relations. Xhoi has been trained on leadership programmers for youth leaders, on politics issues, human rights and democracy etc.

He also has been a trainer on youth programmers for the leadership and human rights too, such as on design training project. Xhoi is involved in the civil society sector, and he has been part of several trainings and conferences. Xhoi continuously works on different socio-cultural projects and programs, which aim at exposing and handling the problems facing young Albanians nowadays.



FABIO HAXHIU – COORDINATOR OF VOLUNTEERS

Has studied on Nursing. He has been trained on youth programmes organised from the Youth in Action and Erasmus +.

He is the Coordinator of the Volunteers from Albania in our office. Fabio has been an active on supporting all the project activities implemented by AfS Centre.



FATJONA BRAHIMI PROGRAM MANAGER

She has graduated on Psychology. Fatjona has been trained on leadership programmers for

youth leaders, human rights and democracy etc. She also has been a trainer on youth programmers for the leadership and human rights too, such as on design training project and gender issues. Fatjona has been involved in the civil society sector, and she has been part of several trainings and conferences

NETWORKS & PARTNERS



ACT for SOCIETY Centre is the founder of the IRIS- Youth Initiative on Sexual Issues Network.

National Network

1. National Youth Congress
2. Youth Voice Network

International Networks

1. Anna Lindh Foundation
2. MasterPeace Movement
3. UNITED for Intercultural Actions
4. No Hate Speech Movement.
5. European Network of Youth Centers
6. SEYF-South Europe Youth Forum



Our work through 2016...



TODAY IS THE DAY WE CHOOSE TO CHANGE

A project implemented on 26 April 2016, in Tirana, Albania.

Description: 'Today is the day we choose to change' was a project focusing on gender equality and awarenessraising of the Bathore community of Elez Isuf Ndreu high school students on issues related to sex and gender, gender stereotypes, domestic violence, as well as information on active citizenship. This project, in addition to raising awareness and informing, was intended to encourage community youth to take steps, however small, to change their community.

Aim & Objectives: The main goal of the project is to inspire the young generation of a problematic town to become open-minded and responsible citizens of the future. Three main objectives include involve:

1. Encouraging young girls to take control of their life and go after their dreams.
2. Educating young boys to be more supportive and open towards their mothers, sisters, girlfriends.
3. Introducing a healthy and proactive lifestyle to the young general, in order to help them understand that being a good and valuable citizen means respect and responsibility.



Wall of Connection



On September 21, 2016, in the outdoor environment of the 9-year school "Androkli Kostallari" in the Shkoza area, within the framework of the International Day of Peace and Religious Tolerance, MasterPeace Albania with a group of organizations realized the "Wall of Connections" event.

This activity was part of an international project, which today is extended to 30 other cities in the world, thus building one of the world's largest murals. Its target group was youth. The Wall of Connections transformed a part of the wall of the school into an artistic wall painting. The objectives of this project were:

1. Inform the public about important of religion co-existence
2. Raise their awareness of the importance of promoting peace and security dialogue among young people

Links to photos and videos: <https://www.facebook.com/MasterPeace-Albania-202966343400557/>



NO HATE MAN!



The campaign initiated by the youth for the youth, is part of the Global Movement – NO HATE SPEECH. This project, differently from The Global Movement, aims to engage both girls and boys, in order to reduce the violent acts, besides avoiding NO HATE SPEECH. One of the main focuses is to encourage girls and boys to embrace their values, attitudes and behaviors, to teach them to challenge their peers to stop and prevent all acts of violence towards girls and women. Held on October at: “Sander Prosi”, Sauk, & “Abdulla Keta” Highschools, Tirana, Albania. This pilot project were conducted in two high schools of Tirana, during two different time periods. These high schools are situated in sub-urban areas of Tirana: high school “Abdulla Keta” in Shkoza and high school “Sandër Prosi” in Sauk, considering the fact that these areas are more vulnerable to certain types of violence. The first activity was successfully accomplished in high school “Abdulla Keta” from

12th until 14th of October 2016. The second training was on 2nd, 3rd, 4th of November 2016 in high school “Sandër Prosi”. Following these trainings up, two open days were held in these specific areas. During these open presentations, the young students hold the main roles, by acting as Peer to Peer Educators and passing the information and skills to other students in their schools and in their community.

The main objectives were: 1. Raise awareness on gender issues among youth
2. Inform on NO HATE SPEECH Movement

Link to photos & videos: https://www.facebook.com/pg/CenterACTforSOCIETY/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1141343435950331



Respect the Elder!



An online awareness campaign with a focus on the elderly ends. A special acknowledgment goes to UNFPA Albania that supported this campaign, and to the organizations of the "Voice of Youth" network, which became part of it. Thanking you all for the distribution of posters and for the fulfillment of the affairs of your grandparents, we encourage you to continually show respect, gratitude and love for them!



International Girl Child Day



In the framework of the International Day of the Child Girl, the awareness raising activity took place on 11 October in the area of Kombinat, Tirana. Supported by UNFPA, co-ordinated by the Observatory for Children's Rights, organized by the 'ACT for SOCIETY' center, this activity brought to the community a group of volunteer youths who distributed information material and symbolic gifts to small girls, promoting rights baby girl. This activity was very well received by the residents of the area, who expressed a lot of interest and curiosity. Also, a briefing session was held in the 9-year school 'Musine Kokalari' in the area, with the hospitality of the school's directorate. We also thank the partner organizations of the Voice of Youth network, which we have supported in the realization of this activity.



Gender in Youth Work: Perspectives Challenges and Opportunity



This project was held on March-November 2016, Tirana, Albania and its aim was to raise awareness of youth workers on gender equality aspects through the development of social partnership between organizations from civil society and influence youth association to take action. It seeks to provide information, perspectives and resources for deepening and focusing the emphasis of youth and educational activities which address issues related to gender and their impact in youth work. As well it supports the creation of a stronger network of cooperation among the consortium and provides them with the possibility to increase their capacities and competencies in working with gender related issues, adopt gender strategies into their working agendas and act on local/national level on issues of abuse of gender issues, as human right issues.



Link to photos & videos: https://www.facebook.com/CenterACTforSOCIETY/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1230380960379911

Project Management & Youth Work



Project Management & Youth Work was held on November 2016, Tirana, Albania.

At the opening of this cycle, the focus was on the beginnings of a project, what makes a project so, the respective roles of a work team, step by step steps of a project. We discussed in more detail the concepts of formulating and planning a project, and will break down one of all the factors that affect the performance of the project. All of these were referred to thanks to the manuals drafted by the European Commission and in line with European Union model models.

The objectives were:

1. Explain the steps of creating a project
2. Empowering youth capacities on project writing

Link to photos & videos: <https://www.facebook.com/CenterACTforSOCIETY/photos/a.517022225049125.1073741828.511958285555819/1153903481360993/?type=3&theater>

International Day Against Women Violence



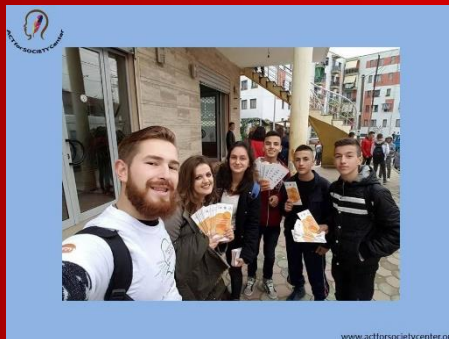
Within the campaign of "16 Days Activation" we were in the City of Tirana. We were at the Abdullah Keta Gymnasium, Shkzoa, holding an information session focused on violence against women in our Albanian context. Then we moved to the streets of the city and where leaflets were circulated with information, statistics on gender equality and violence in Albania. This campaign was made possible thanks to the support of #UNFPA_Albania and the coordination of the Observatory for Children's Rights. Also special thanks goes to the cooperation of the directorate and students of Gymnasium "Abdullah Keta"



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YOUTH AND GENDER

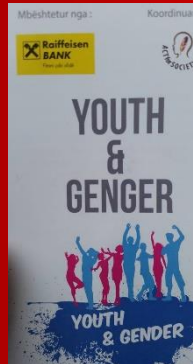


Held on : December 2016, Tirana, Kruja, Albania.

30 young people from Gymnasiums gathered and discussed gender equality issues as they perceived this global goal and the challenges faced in the local context. Today's focus was on gender stereotypes.

The main goal of the project is to inspire the young generation of a problematic town to become open-minded and responsible citizens of the future. Three main objectives include involve:

1. Encouraging young girls to take control of their life and go after their dreams.
2. Educating young boys to be more supportive and open towards their mothers, sisters, girlfriends.
3. Introducing a healthy and proactive lifestyle to the young general, in order to help them understand that being a good and valuable citizen means respect and responsibility.



Links to photos & videos: https://www.facebook.com/pg/CenterACTforSOCIETY/photos/?tab=album&album_id=1154553851295456

Partnership Against Corruption Together



Founded by European Union

The PACT project targets the civil society actors from the four

regions of Northern Albania—Diber, Kukes, Lezhe, and Shkoder.

The specific objective is “to increase the engagement of CSOs in

15 municipalities of Northern Albania in good governance issues

and fight against corruption by strengthening their capacity and

funding their initiatives”. The project is funded by the

European Union and implemented by ANTTARC in partnership with

the Albanian Local Capacity Development Foundation (ALCDF)

and Act for Society Center (AfS).

International Human Rights Day



In the framework of the International Day of Human Rights, on December 10th, we were bicycling in Shkodra to increase public awareness of Human Rights and our work to promote and protect the rights of every person based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We would like to thank Y-Peer, Albania's young people who joined us and assisted in the realization of this activity.



World AIDS Day



In the framework of the International HIV/AIDS Day, on 1/12/2016 ACT for SOCIETY Center in cooperation with the Y-Peer Network, Albania was near the "28 Nëntori" high school in Shkodra, where an information session was held, followed by questions and discussions by some students this gymnasium. Further,

the activity was extended to the center of the city of Shkodra, where leaflets and information and awareness poster for the community were widely distributed.



ERASMUS+ PROJECTS



NAME OF THE PROJECT

LOCATION

DATES

“Be yourself”

Dublin, Ireland

December 2016

“Transformers”

Bulgaria

October 2016

“EuroPeers Western Balkans”

Vienna

March 2016

“Youth Entrepreneurship Initiative”

Montenegro

January 2016

“INTFEI”

Novi Sad, Serbia

“EUROMED Express 16: Social Entrepreneurship
and Culture of Peace”

Istanbul, Turkey

August 2016

“Civil Society Forum”

Skopje, Macedonia

November 2016

“Tools for social development”

Vrnjacka Banja

June 2016

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www.twitter.com/SocietyAct