

## **Conference „Cross-border mobility as learning environment and its dimensions of recognition”, 03/04 December, Düsseldorf (Germany)**

JUGEND für Europa (the German National Agency for the Youth in Action programme) and IJAB (International Youth Service of the Federal Republic of Germany) invite you to take part in the conference “Cross-border mobility as learning environment and its dimensions of recognition”. On December 03 and 04, international experts from all over Europe address the different dimensions of recognition of non-formal and informal learning. The aim of the conference is to develop future perspectives and concrete recommendations to strengthen the recognition of non-formal and informal education and to enhance the awareness of cross border mobility activities as learning environments.

International experiences and intercultural competences are more and more important for the future societies characterised by diversity and networking, and for the lifelong learning and professional pathways of young people. European and international youth work as non-formal and informal learning environments can make an important contribution to these societies. Young people, when taking part in cross-border mobility projects, sustainably develop relevant key competencies. This strengthens their personality, complements their educational paths and raises chances for personal growth in terms of lifelong and life wide learning; at the same time it raises their chances of social and professional integration.

The potential of the European and international youth work as a non-formal and informal learning environment is not fully – if at all – recognised by formal education, the economic field and civil societies. Therefore it is an important aim of youth and educational policies to strengthen this recognition. Initiatives like developing an independent youth policy, caring for visibility of the European and international youth work as learning environment, implementation of the EU youth strategy, cooperation between the non-formal and formal education sectors and the development of National Qualification Frameworks are crucial in this regard.

In terms of practical implementation, we can mention Youthpass – the European/international instrument for recognition within the Youth in Action programme, and the Nachweise International – the German instrument to recognise international non-formal and informal learning experience. They are successful tools that recognise learning experiences and make them visible; they raise the quality of the project implementation and care for visibility of acquired competences during projects of cross-border mobility. However, it is also important to develop the further dimensions of recognition besides the individual recognition of learning.

We kindly invite you to discuss and explore together with national and international experts the different dimensions of recognition of non-formal and informal learning – the formal, the societal,

the individual, and the policy dimension. After presenting of the state of art and discussions (partly of the German situation and partly international) in each of the dimensions of recognition there will be the opportunity to explore and get inspired by good practise examples. The aim of the activity is also to develop future perspectives and concrete recommendations for the youth field to strengthen the cross border mobility dimension of youth work and to make the learning environment more visible.

The conference starts on the 03<sup>rd</sup> at 11h00 and ends on the 4<sup>th</sup> at 15h30.

**Working languages:** German and English (simultaneous translation in the plenary sessions)

**Eligible countries for participants' registration:** Youth in Action programme countries

**Costs:** Board and lodging is free

Travel costs will be reimbursed except a participation fee of 25 € (cheapest means and fares – APEX airfare, 2nd class train ticket; using other means and fares must be justified in advance) – in terms of challenges to finance travel costs please do not hesitate to contact us!

The closest airport is Düsseldorf, but also Cologne/Bonn airport is close by!

If you have further questions please do not hesitate to contact Rita Bergstein ([rita@salto-youth.net](mailto:rita@salto-youth.net) or [Bergstein@jfemail.de](mailto:Bergstein@jfemail.de)) !

**A confirmation and further detailed information you will receive after the 22<sup>nd</sup> October! Please do not book any tickets before!**

