

21 OCTOBER VOL1 ISSUE 2

VOLUNTEER AND GO!

VOL'GO!

Volunteer and Go! is an Erasmus KA2 project aiming to enhance the possibilities of young adults to volunteer in EU area.

Sosped coordinates Vol'Go! and promotes and reviews the project, focusing on its project management and on adaptability in changing situations, and constant, regular feedback.

During the summer partners have conducted an extensive research on inclusive volunteering in their countries that has been compiled into a state of the art report.

The Study of Inclusive volunteerism in Europe is something that still seems to be fresh. From the research we carried out as part of the project VolGo it seems that the term is still not widespread and in many cases it is confused with that of social volunteering.



SLOVENIA, CELJE TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING

August 31st - September 1st

The 2nd transnational meeting within VolGo! Project was held in Celje, Slovenia, between the 31st of August and 1st of September 2022 at the premises of the Youth Center Celje, a member organisation of the MaMa Network. Representatives of all four partner organisations were present at the conference.

During the meeting, the partners from Finland, Cyprus, Portugal and Slovenia discussed the research process that was taking place during the summer and planned future activities that will take place within the project.



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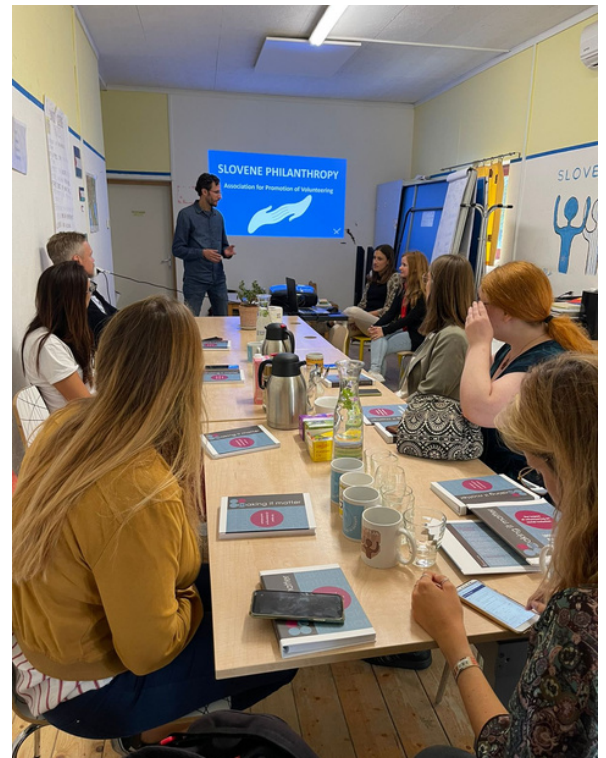


HOW DOES INCLUSIVE VOLUNTEERING WORK IN PARTNER COUNTRIES?

A general observation that was made is that as much as volunteers and youth workers try to activate themselves in the consolidation of this form of volunteering, the response from institutions and stakeholders is not the expected. This fact seems to be due to several factors, the most prevalent being the lack of a defined definition of exactly what IV is and how exactly it differs from the other forms of volunteering that were mentioned.

Establishing the IV will give the stimulus to more professionals to help in its development and consolidation, since the opportunities and possibly its funding will increase. An interesting fact that the research finds is that even among the participants and the researchers it is not easy to define, the individuals who are considered to be excluded from the ordinary volunteerism and need the special form of IV to get part of it

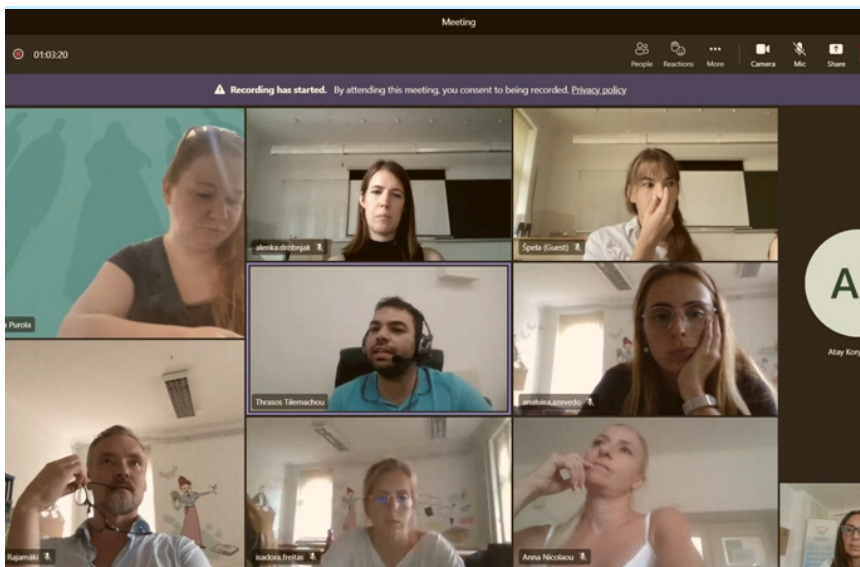
Another interesting conclusion has to do with people who benefit from IV. In cases that vulnerable individuals join the volunteerism world, their guardians usually feel the need to be protective and join the activities of their loved ones. In cases like that it is necessary to consider a way to include also their guardians in the IV development procedure.



What's Next?

In the coming days the partners will start working on PR 2 - A guidebook of inclusive Volunteering.

The guidebook will include the main results and data from the Field Research on inclusive volunteering, a chapter on inclusive volunteer Management, together with a proposal of a methodology, a chapter on implementing an inclusive volunteering program with youngsters, that will include practical strategies, and a final chapter on promoting international inclusive volunteering opportunities.



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