

# Say no to indifference - refugees and migrants in Europe

## Project aims

- To educate young people about the causes and consequences of racism and to explore the various forms racism can take.
- To empower young people to challenge racism in the communities in which they live, providing them with relevant knowledge and information to enable them to do this.
- To help young people prepare to play an active role as citizens in an increasingly multi-cultural society.
- To enable young people to develop good relationships and respect the differences between people, regardless of their ethnicity, faith, culture or nationality
- Activities
- Local communities or school can host vibrant cultural festivals and fairs as a means of publicly championing the benefits of cultural diversity. These types of events should send a clear message that the broader community is shared by people of a range of backgrounds, and that everyone - despite their race, culture or religion - is welcomed and accepted.
- Open Library. In these "Library" books are alive; they are people who want to openly discuss issues of racism. Rather than simply "preaching" information at the participants, they should be actively involved in the process.
- Everyday - antiracism: A good deal of everyday racism occurs within public places, such as on the street, at sporting events or in workplace lunchrooms and school yards. Victims of racism are especially wounded by everyday racism if members of the public neglect to intervene on their behalf. Encouraging students and teachers to intervene when they see racism occur can have the opposite effect, affirming the

victim that they are not alone in their fight and worthy of support. Everyday anti-racism is about asking citizens to take responsibility for what happens in public space and providing them with the knowledge and means to effectively combat racism. Students and teachers are going to publish all those facts on a website.

- A broad range of media can be used in anti-discrimination and pro-diversity initiatives, including television, radio, print, the internet and the arts. Communications and social marketing strategies can raise awareness of race-based discrimination, impact directly on attitudes and behaviors, and contribute to the development and strengthening of positive social norms. So project can built a website, a small radio station, and take part to a TV programme in order to work against racism.
- Fashion against racism. Student design clothes inspire from ethnic clothes. They sew their own clothes and they organize a fashion show by choosing their models among their classmates. All incomes from this fashion show can be used to support refugee camps.
- The impact of this project on pupils can be compromised if teachers and school staff are not themselves, fully informed and confident dealing with these issues. In addition to our direct work with young people we should be able to offer teacher training, either full day inset or twilight sessions. We can collaborate with sociologists, psychologists and researchers which are going to work as facilitators in order to create a safe and supportive environment for teachers and school staff to express concerns and receive coaching and support in challenging racism.
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