



Workshop: Security and restorative ways of dealing with conflicts

The EU funded FP7 project **ALTERNATIVE** (www.alternativeproject.eu) invites you hereby to a Nordic workshop to discuss restorative handling of conflicts in intercultural contexts

What is **ALTERNATIVE**? – preliminary findings and bases for discussion for a Nordic context and cooperation.

Presentation of ongoing work

- Red Cross Street mediation: Experiences from **Oslo and Tromsø**
- **Hungary**: Dialogue-work in conflicts between Roma and Non-Roma in a village close to Budapest
- **Serbia**: The Victimology Society of Serbia and its work for the establishment of restoring communities struck by conflict lines between Serbs, Croats, Kosovo-Albanians, Christians and Muslims in the aftermath of the war.
- **Northern Ireland**: Needed tools for restorative actions in the new conflicts between different community groups, Protestants and Catholics, new and old immigrant groups, paramilitary groups, local authorities. Experiences from Belfast and Londonderry in the aftermath of the war ("The Troubles").
- **Vienna**: Cooperation between local mediation organisations on a city level in the handling of conflicts between different immigrant groups and the Viennese population.

Discussions, group work, films etc.

Ida Hydle and Espen Marius Foss will present and organise discussions and summaries. There will be presentations from Dr. Inge Vanfraechem, University of Leuven, and sociologist researcher Gabor Hera from the research institute FORESEE in Budapest.

We will distribute a report from the work to all participants and relevant cooperating colleagues and institutions after the workshop.



Foto: colourbox.no

What do we investigate?

The possibilities of restorative justice approaches for the peaceful handling of conflicts and coexistence in intercultural contexts in the Nordic countries and beyond. Under what circumstances and in which ways can mediation, conferences and peace circles contribute to security and safety in local settings?

With whom?

The aim of the workshop is to build bridges between 1. Professionals working for security, safety and the handling of conflicts, such as restorative practitioners and mediators, 2. Policy makers and politicians, representatives from municipalities and minority groups, 3. Non-profit organisations working in the field of intercultural issues, migration, integration, minorities or conflict resolution, 4. Researchers.

Why?

The aim of the workshop is to present the preliminary results from the action research sites in the ALTERNATIVE project, and give space for constructive, critical discussions and further proposals for research in the Nordic area and beyond.

The **ALTERNATIVE**-project is funded by the EU seventh framework program for research (FP7). It is linked to issues of security and community, ethics and justice, the handling of conflict and mediation. It will end in 2016.

Last application date (Friday 30. January)

The Participation is free (including dinner Wednesday, lunch Thursday and coffee-breaks). Send an e-mail marked ALTERNATIVE to: konferanser@nova.hioa.no

Invited participants from

National security sectors, mediation organisations, municipal level, intercultural organisations and other NGO's, researchers – on national and local level. Common issues: intercultural dialogue, safety, security, inclusion and local sustainable development



Program ALTERNATIVE workshop, Oslo 11.-12. February 2015

Wednesday 11. February 1300-1800 p.m.

- 1300-1330 Registration with coffee and fruit
- 1330-1400 -Welcome and introduction: What is ALTERNATIVE? Preliminary finding and discussions for a Nordic and beyond context and cooperation. The Nordic countries as a policy and praxis-field for local security and safety in a restorative and intercultural perspective.
-Presentation of the ALTERNATIVE-project at NOVA.
- 1400-1445 Discussing the participants' assesment of central security questions and the relevance of restorative processes as knowledge and method
- 1445-1500 Break
- 1500-1600 Presentation of preliminary findings and analyses in the ALTERNATIVE-project:
4 action sites (Northern Ireland, Serbia, Hungary and Austria), with film presentations
- 1600-1615 Break
- 1615-1645 NOVA's role in the project and the Norwegian Red Cross Street Mediation in Oslo and Tromsø as comparison
- 1645-1800 Discussions: First impression
- 1900 Dinner

Thursday 12. February 09 a.m. -15 p.m.

- 0900-0930 Welcome, the program for the day and summary
- 0930-1030 Moderated group discussions: Central security challenges and restorative practices as tools
- 1030-1045 Coffee break
- 1045-1200 What we have learned and what critical questions have surfaced?
- 1200-1300 Lunch
- 1300-1400 Brainstorm: Overview of wishes, needs and research
- 1400-1500 Summary and conclusion

All invited to this workshop have important knowledge and responsibilities within the issues of societal security and the handling of conflicts

Parts of the presentations will be in English, while some of the group work may be in Nordic languages. The major focus is on the majority population communicating with Roma and other minority groups: Questions and problems emerging in the Nordic countries in these conflict fields.

And dont forget

... this is a possibility to spread knowledge about your activities in the field!

We ask you to share material about your organisation or project (reports, folders, books, posters etc.) with us and the other participants. There will be open space for this Thursday afternoon, in addition to open space for short presentations.

Register now!

We have 30 places available and these are distributed in a first come first served basis - our advice is to register as soon as possible - why not today?

Contact: projectleader:

Ida Hydle, NOVA, (ida.hydle@nova.hioa.no)