

## Workshop: Model of Youth Development for Employment



### IMPORTANT TOPIC

The European house is much better than its reputation

### MORE ABOUT COUNTRIES

- Croatia
- Portugal

### WORKSHOPS

- Serbia
- Romania

## Invitation to Membership Meeting in Romania



## The European house is much better than its reputation

Author: Gregor Federhen, desk officer of IKS



Currently it is quite chic to do some EU-bashing and to hold sepulchral speeches on the European Union. And whoever likes to bait on the EU, easily finds enough occasions to do so: ongoing attempts to solve the economic problems in Greece, the inability to find a common asylum and refugee policy, the helplessness against the Russian aggression in Ukraine and the unwillingness to defend its own principles courageously against the pretentiousness of neo-autocrats. Having all this in mind many well-meaning young people angrily ask

themselves what the use is of this powerful entity and for what do we need it really for. All kinds of allegations are made and the EU is blamed for its mismanagement, loss of sense of reality, self-blockade and growing alienation of its apparatus from the citizens. On the other hand we all should not be surprised that the path towards a European unification will not be an easy stroll through a rose garden, rather it always was a walk through stony terrain.

In fairness one has to assert that European politics in general is not worse or less efficient than politics in the national states of Europe. In many countries people are yearning for the democratic standards and efficiency of the European institutions, because at home they suffer much more of corruption, missing transparency and horrible red tape.

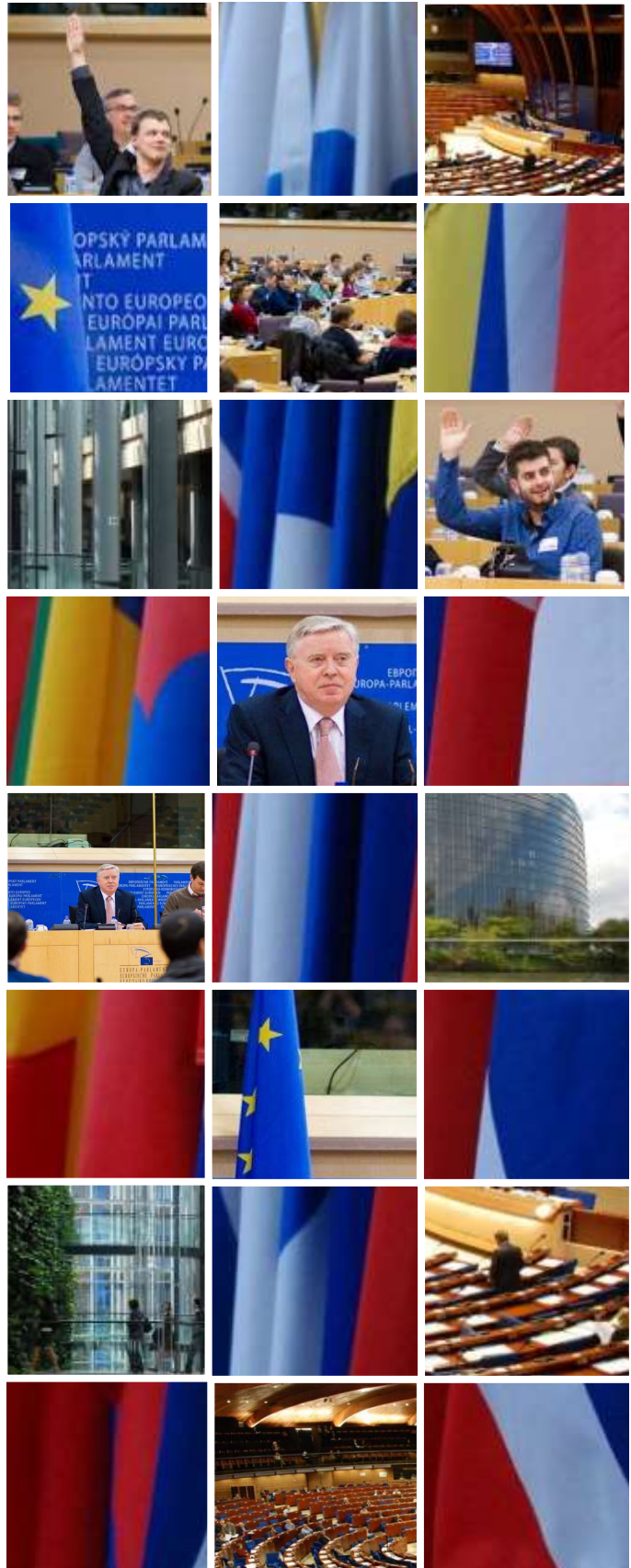
Despite all justified and non-justified criticism of the EU, I would like to defend the basic idea against the rampant skepticism of EU politics and institutions.

For about 15 years I accompanied Kolping youngsters to Strasbourg, where Anton Salesny organized the

annual international seminars at the Council of Europe and European Parliament. I could witness how this event changed the mindset of many youngsters within a week. On-site they could experience first-hand how seriously and committed the politicians and the staff in the EU administration are debating and working for the benefit of the people. Almost all of them significantly changed their minds and dropped their prejudices. Participants who had been die-hard sceptics in the beginning, turned to emphatic backers of the European Union at the end of this event. The young Kolping members got access to many institutions and had the opportunity to get insight into the difficult task of finding common solutions and reasonable compromises between the member states.

How frustrating it must be for most of the participants of these Kolping seminars in Strasbourg to observe that many national parliaments are increasingly dominated by populists of the extreme right or left, between whom it is ever more difficult to find any differences. In a self-destructive manner they are uttering their resentments towards Europe and the EU, and are willing to relinquish the best and most precious thing that Europeans ever founded, just out of spoiled laziness to think and trendy hubris.

I am positive that the Brexit and the current erratic president of the US will contribute to a stronger unification of Europe and that the EU will come out invigorated of this crisis. We can learn this as well from the Chinese sages: in Chinese language the term crisis (危機) consists of a character which is built from the two terms of danger (危險) and opportunity (機會) (crisis = danger + opportunity). So we may always have the hope that in every danger there will be an element of change to the better. Let's not frivolously abandon the European institutions but rather try to strengthen all efforts to make them more accountable and democratic.



## Invitation: Membership Meeting of KYE

# TIMISOARA, ROMANIA 9-12.11.2017



The Membership Meeting of Kolping Youth Europe will take place in Timisoara/Romania from 9th to 12th of November 2017.

Up to 2 representatives of national Kolping Youth are invited.

Deadline: **10.10.2017**

Contact: [pkwapik@kolping.pl](mailto:pkwapik@kolping.pl)

The flyer and application form you can find on our internet site:

[https://www.kolpingwerk-europa.net/en/kolpingjugend\\_europa.html](https://www.kolpingwerk-europa.net/en/kolpingjugend_europa.html)



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## !!! PHOTOCONTEST 2017 !!!



Summer is in a full swing and maybe you spend some holiday time with a Kolping friends or at a Kolping place. Feel free to attend and share some photos with us and maybe win a small price.

### RULES:

- On the photo needs to be visible a **Kolping sign** (any) **and your face** .
- On the background needs to be visible **something recognizable**.
- (not just some wall or some general things, but something from which is clear where the photo was taken)
- Post the photo with localization and personal details on our FB site in section Photo competition 2017 which will be pinned on the top of the wall
- There will be three categories.
- the farthest photo from the centre of Kolping society (Cologne, Germany) **worldwide**
- the farthest photo **within Europe** from geogr. middle of Europe in Slovakia
- the **creasiest / funniest** photo
- Evaluation of the contest will be in last newsletter of the year, winners will got some original presents from Slovak organizers and winning photos will be presented in newsletter.

## Kolping youth Croatia: Costume party

In organisation of Kolping youth Croatia, younger and senior Kolping members of Kolping family St. Joseph Zagreb, liturgical children group „Djeca bl. Marije Petković“ and family group of the parish St. Joseph Zagreb, on February 25th was for the first time held a costume party. All together prepared interesting evening meeting on the theme „Noah's Ark“. This happy and colourful meeting was held in a premises of the St. Joseph parish, Zagreb. As you can imagine, the happiest were children. Children as well as the adults showed their creativity in preparing the masks

under the main theme. Noah himself, his wife, all kind of different animals, rainbow, even Noah's ark were singing, dancing and having nice time during the evening. At the end all children presented their masks and the most creative ones were rewarded. Adults were gathered into smaller groups and presented their creativity together-there was even a „water“ (mask) present.

With the great support of the priest and cooperation of different parish groups this costume party was very successful and for sure – there will be another one next year.

**Viktorija Erjavec**  
*Kolping youth Croatia*





KOLPING YOUTH CROATIA



Mladi Kolpinga Hrvatske

## Erasmus+ seminar held in Romania



**Brasov, 9-12 march 2017**

***„Smart communication – smart youth participation“***

***Erasmus+ seminar held in Romania***

The second transnational meeting of the “Smart communication – smart youth participation” project took place in Braşov, from the 9th till the 12th of March 2017. The topic of the seminar funded by the Erasmus+ programme was “National communication and promotion tools to enhance empowerment, bottom-up youth initiatives”.

For a period of 3 days, the 13 representatives from the partner countries (Poland, Slovenia, Germany and Romania), along with the 3 participants from Serbia, shared good practices in the field of non-formal education and communication. At the same time, we improved our public speaking skills, we acquired new non-formal methods and we found out what has to be taken into consideration when we translate theory into practice. The seminar was led by Ana-Maria Andronic.



# SMART COMMUNICATION YOUTH PARTICIPATION

The aim of this project is to identify the best practices in the field of new technologies, social media and internet, in order to stimulate the involvement of youngsters in various activities related to the above mentioned topics, and especially to create a common and innovative system of communication and PR in Kolping.

After the activities taking place at the seminar were over for the day, we spent our free time together. On Thursday evening we had a short city tour. The cultural evening took place on Friday and the participants presented the distinguishing features of their homeland. Saturday afternoon we visited the Bran Castle and during the evening we attended the Holy Mass celebrated by Fr. Birton Róbert-Attila in the Kolping chapel. The youngsters from Braşov were by our side and they touched a deep chord through the songs they sang.

Sunday, after visiting the Bear Sanctuary in Zărneşti, we returned to the hotel in order to say goodbye.

This 4 day period was not only full of new information and methods, but also bursting with cheerfulness and laughter. We truly enjoyed the time spent together. Thus, we can barely wait to see each other again at the next seminar!

**Ana-Maria Nicu**  
**Kolping Youth Romania**



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## KOLPING YOUTH PORTUGAL

**"Solidary Ties" - a project where the bonds grow stronger every day**

The Kolping Society of Portugal is currently carrying out a European Volunteer Service project called "Solidary Ties". Andreas, Kostas and Marianna are three young people from Greece who are developing for six months activities in the fields of action, social service and inclusion. Kolping Society of Portugal embraces every day their ideas and suggested activities. Working in Kolping Day Center in the Town of Castelo, participation in the Food Bank through the distribution of food to the families in need, developing their personal project of renovation of the Kolping Society and Social Shop are just some of the activities that these young people are developing during their adventure in our country. Visibly integrated in the community, where they have already made some friends, the young volunteers have already had the opportunity to visit some cities and also an adventure in Saint Jacob Portuguese Way. Andreas, Kostas and Marianna are very happy and pleased with the sympathy and hospitality of the Kolping and Portuguese community.

***Arlinda Almeida and José Eduardo Cação***  
***Kolping Portugal***  
***Kolping youth Portugal***



## Kolping Football Tournament 2017



On the first weekend of May plenty of football lover Kolping members gathered in Érsekvadkert. The reason was the International Kolping Football Tournament which was hosted by our Kolping family for the 14th time. The perfect weather and all conditions were given for a real football fiesta.

Five teams were faced to each other on the football field – to stand on the highest step of the podium at the end of the day. Two teams came from Transylvania (Hungarian speaking part of Romania), one from Southern Slovakia (also a Hungarian speaking area) and two teams from Hungary.

We played almost all day long and at the end the gold medals were at the neck of the members of the team Székelykeresztúr (Transylvania). The second place was for the host team and the bronze medals were given to the team members of Csíkszereda (Transylvania).

After the exhausting activity we closed the day with a dinner and the prize-giving ceremony in our community hall in Érsekvadkert. We are so thankful to those who came and played football and also to those who helped us a lot in the organizing part. See you next year!

**Gellért Szabó**  
*Kolping Family of Érsekvadkert*



## Entrepreneurial Thinking

The project promotes high quality of youth work fostering the inclusion and internationalization of youth work and opening it up to cross-border cooperation.

**First training** for youth workers from Poland, Romania and Serbia, on the topic of Entrepreneurial thinking was held in Novi Sad, Serbia, from June 26 - 30. During these 5 days of work, the participants have participated in various lectures, workshops and visits to the best practice examples.

Successful pitch of the business ideas might be crucial for its implementation. Our participants had a chance to see how good they are at preparing and pitching it.

"Entrepreneurial thinking" training is over. We would like to say a big "thank you", to all the participants and lecturers/workshop leaders for creating an amazing week!

Full video about the training "Entrepreneurial Thinking", held in Novi Sad at the end of June 2017, is also finished!

**We are looking forward to the next meeting of the participants, to be held in October 2017, in Romania :)**



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You can find more about the project on the internet site:  
**[modelyde.net](http://modelyde.net)**

## Project — Model of Youth Development for Employment



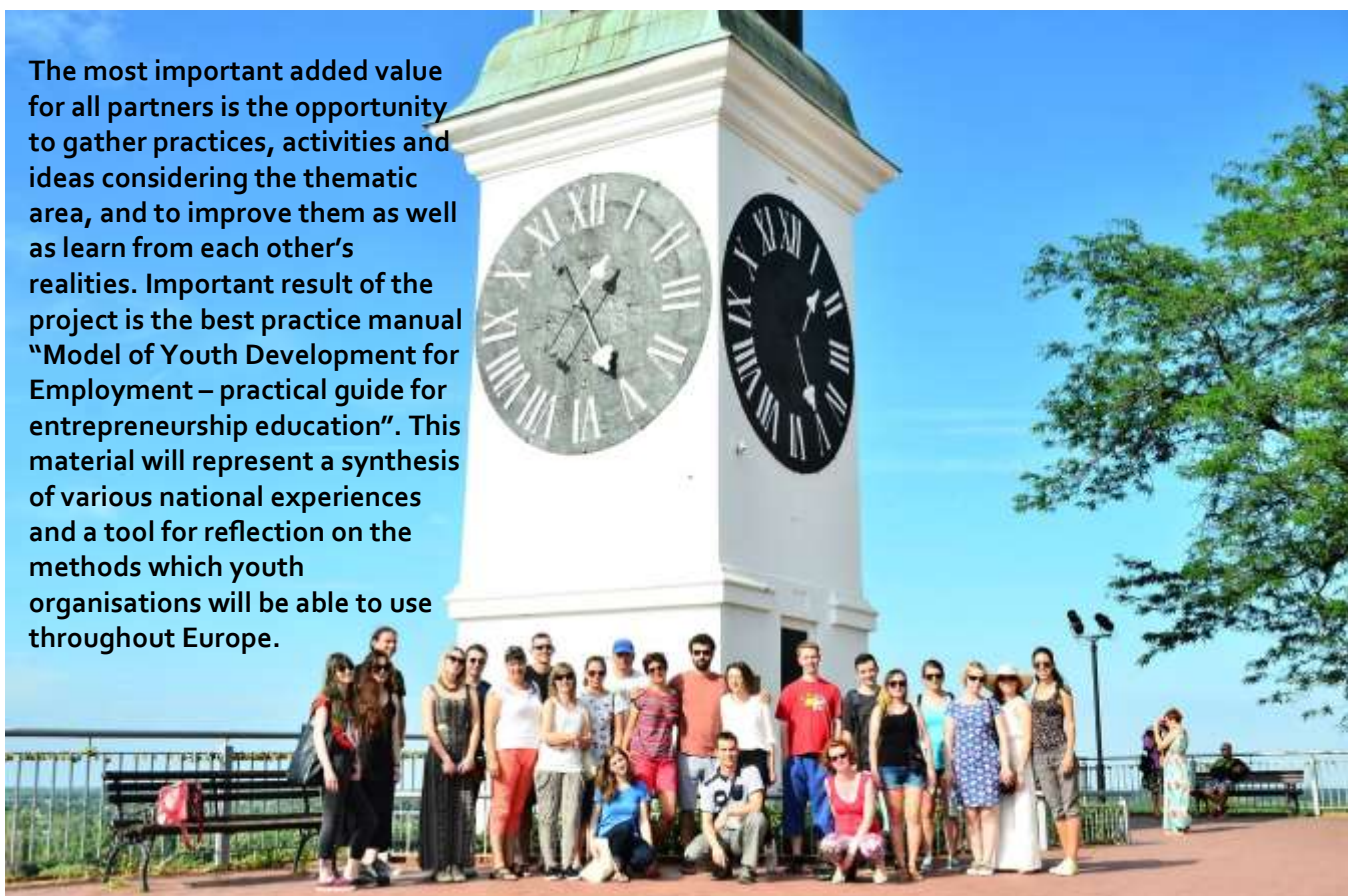
The project “Model of Youth Development for Employment” involves 3 partners – 2 from Programme Countries – Poland and Romania and 1 from Partner Country from the Western Balkans – Serbia.

Planned project actions combine innovation and complementary activities. There will be four mobility activities – 3 Mobility of youth workers in Serbia, Poland and Romania and 1 Youth Exchange in Serbia.

The project is based on non-formal and informal learning methods, stimulating creativity, active participation and initiative of participants.



The most important added value for all partners is the opportunity to gather practices, activities and ideas considering the thematic area, and to improve them as well as learn from each other's realities. Important result of the project is the best practice manual “Model of Youth Development for Employment – practical guide for entrepreneurship education”. This material will represent a synthesis of various national experiences and a tool for reflection on the methods which youth organisations will be able to use throughout Europe.





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