

# Human Rights in Practice

***Human Rights as  
a part of  
language training  
to prevent HRV  
and harmful  
practices in the  
communities.***

Site:  
<http://www.human-right.net/hrinpractice>

Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/HRinPractice/>

## Editorial

The Human Rights in Practice project is back to announce your news in the fight against family violence and crimes of honor!

In the last semester, there was a large set of activities and developments.

In this period, we highlight the trip to Berlin with a large number of enthusiastic participants who contributed immensely to the moment and process of formation of trainers.

The group was very well received by the German partner and everything goes very well.

The work has been of high quality and the intermediate report of the project has been approved by the European Commission with some suggestions for improvement that will be taken into account.

Domestic violence against women and children and crimes of honor continue to be part of reality and, therefore, this type of project is extremely important and useful.

Let's do this!



Group photo, Training of Trainers, March 2017, Berlin

### Training of trainers and 3<sup>rd</sup> transnational meeting - Berlin

This meeting presented the training material, which the partners had developed so far, to language trainers, who have a broad experience in giving language courses and to members of migrants organisations.

At the first day, 35 of these experts from the five partner countries gathered at Berlin, all ready to test the material's usability for their practice.

After everybody introduced themselves, was given a short orientation about the Berlin youth emergency centre (Jugendnotdienst), where the meeting took place, combined with information about the hosting partner organisation Papatya and its work against honour based violence.

Five mixed multiprofessional and multinational workgroups were formed.

Folksuniversitetet challenged them with questions about human rights which stimulated discussion and by this gave an introduction into human rights education.

For those new to the project the already existing human rights game was presented and explained. Each workgroup then selected a moderator and started to play the game to get a lively impression of its potential.

Then each workgroup read, discussed and reviewed one of the language units of exercise book, the partners had developed in English and collected positive and negative comments. The discussion was very lively. Finally each unit and the main points associated with it were presented and discussed in the joint group again.

Some general subjects, which are of concern for all units, came up – for example: (1) the language level might need to be quite basic while the complexity of human rights issues should not be diminished; (2) a shared version is a central objective, but the grammar parts of the units have to be adapted to the specifics of every language; and (3) texts and audio parts should link to day-to-day experiences of participants but also present general information about the host society.

It was agreed that each country would have the freedom to adapt the language units to its specific needs and its specific grammar. The transferability of the so far developed English version of the exercises might be limited, so each partners will write a version of all units in their language from scratch.

Overall the partners were very motivated by the experts to proceed with their efforts, because they emphasized that the integration of human rights in language courses will form a very welcome expansion of their work.

On the second day, the partners discussed the further steps to take. When all partners finish the material it will be tested by language trainers in a first pilot course. The results of this pilot will be used to adapt a final version. Dimitra will present a general layout for a printed text book and supervise the publication in Greek, Swedish, English, Portuguese and German. Based on this book language courses will be held and evaluated until end of 2017.

Corinna Ter-Nedden , Papatya



### Next Events

#### September and October

Implementation of training material and pilot training

#### November

Finalization of pilot activities

Press conference and workshops

Carrying out the Impact study

Launch of network digital platform

#### December

Dissemination seminar

Academic article

Final conference

### Project Graphic Image and Dissemination

The project dissemination activities aim to raise public awareness on the issue of human rights, and attract immigrant NGOs, language teachers, language centers and other stakeholders to participate in the training on the material and in the pilot activities.

The pictures and colors in the project website, as well as the poster/leaflet give the message of gender equality and non-discrimination, and raise awareness on the universal nature of human rights.

The Human Rights Logo, which was created to defend human rights around the world, was used in the Leaflet and Poster. The Logo is a universal symbol for human rights and is used for the promotion and protection of human rights. Also, the pictures and the motto aim to give the message of combining language training with human rights learning in language training centers and NGOs.

Fenia Pistofidou, Dimitra

### A glimpse of an article

#### Academic article output

Almost two years ago we were asked to write an article for the European Union in which we would record the progress of the project called "HR in Practice: Human rights as part of language training to prevent HRV and other harmful practices in migrant communities".

We have collected information for the article in the following ways:  
participating in the international workshops in the UK, Sweden and Germany,

taking part in project proposals, narrative reports, scientific reports,  
Development of training materials and staff training.

We have also conducted and recorded qualitative research in the form of interviews with representatives of the stakeholders. This part of the work was surprising and informative.

It became obvious at the beginning that the circumstances around language training for immigrants were quite different between the countries represented. (Uk, Greece, Germany, Sweden and Portugal)

Each country has different migrant groups with different origins. We found that sometimes they have similar groups but then it becomes obvious that there are particular reasons why they reach that country. What was also apparent in the beginning was that each country had quite different demands on the newly arrived when it came to language training. For example with some countries language training is obligatory and with others it is voluntary.

Different rules also apply about when they can start the training. In some countries they can start in the refugee camp. Others must start when they get a permit to stay in the country.

The different conditions also have an impact on the quality of the training. This was one of the reasons for creating similar training materials which include the Human Rights Act combined with ordinary training. Also for involving Teachers and Activists in the development of this project.

The workshops have been very helpful for us, if not for everyone. The end result will be an excellent training handbook with a unique approach.

We look forward to completing the article and feel sure of a fair conclusion. We have witnessed a lot of passion and commitment from all involved.

Maria Hagberg & Cris McCurley



### Next Steps

The project is now focusing the workstream 3 and on the implementation of the pilot training in human rights included in language training for newly arrived immigrants participating in language training. This is for 500 newly immigrants in Sweden, Germany, Greece, Portugal, the UK, with 100 participants per country.

This workstream also includes evaluation report on the method and structure for cooperation between language training centers and immigrant NGOs, which will be presented digitally online in English, German, Greek, Portuguese and Swedish. It will contribute to the networking platform, which will take form as a digital platform for cooperation.

As the project is as its full speed, it is relevant to mention the press conference and national workshops for presentation of the training material at the workshop for professionals prior to training pilot activities in Sweden, Greece, Portugal, the UK.

We will also have the impact report on elaboration of overall activities of inclusion of human rights in language, that will also be digital online in English, German, Greek, Portuguese and Swedish.



## How to implement the HR training in the framework of the language training

*Basic knowledge of the host society's language, history, and institutions is indispensable to integration; enabling immigrants to acquire this basic knowledge is essential to successful integration.*

(Council of Europe, Common Basic Principles of Integration, 2001)

Learning the local languages is an important element in the integration process, but also for access to employment. Moreover, tasks such as accessing services, even shopping or opening a bank account can be very difficult when you do not know 'how things work'. Consequently, the language training is the necessary first step for inclusion in the host society. However, the language training itself is not enough to ensure that the newly-arrived fully understands how the things work the new society, what rights and obligations s/he has. The language training shall be combined/enriched with social orientation information helping to orient in the new society.

The training course "Human Rights in Practice" aims at enriching the language training with basic information about the individual's rights and obligations in the new society. The course provides the individual with the concrete information about:

- Which institutions in the local society are responsible for protecting the individual rights when it comes to health, education, housing, employment, etc.?
- How to ensure own rights and what obligations are connected to those rights?
- Contact with relevant organizations/authorities responsible for ensuring certain rights.

This integrated Human Rights training does not only provide individual with vital information about the society but also motivate language learning in the concrete context.

Yevgeniya Averhed, Folkuniversitetet



### Project Executive Body

#### Coordinator:



**FOLKUNIVERSITETET**  
Bergsbrunnagatan 1  
753 23, Uppsala, Sweden  
[www.folkuniversitetet.se](http://www.folkuniversitetet.se)

#### Project partners:

##### Germany:



[www.papatya.org](http://www.papatya.org)

##### Portugal:



[www.kerigma.pt](http://www.kerigma.pt)

##### United Kingdom:



[www.ikwro.org.uk](http://www.ikwro.org.uk)

##### Greece:



[www.genderstudies-pantelion.gr](http://www.genderstudies-pantelion.gr)