



Play Europe

Newsletter n° 6



A GREAT CLOSURE FOR PLAY EUROPE LEADERS:

THE ELISAN ANNUAL CONFERENCE

AT THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC & SOCIAL COMMITTEE IN BRUSSELS

A delegation of 6 young leaders invited by ELISAN to present Play Europe projects

By ELISAN Staff



In the framework of the high level Conference organized by the **Elisan (European Local Inclusion and Social Action network)** in partnership with the European Economic and Social Committee with the contribution of the Presidency of the European Economic and Social Committee, the President of the Committee of the Regions, the new members of the European Parliament and high representatives of the European Commission, **a delegation from the Play Europe project presented the project results to a public of more than 130 participants**, key stakeholders from all over Europe including representatives from regional and local authorities, social service providers and the private sector.

Six young leaders, representative for each national group, coming from 5 European countries (Croatia, Netherlands, Belgium, Spain and Italy) attended the Conference sharing with the presents the project results coming from one year and a half of work on the topic of the Youth Leadership and the proposals for an European Social Agenda 2027. **Levi Algoet (BE)** and **Martina Benolic (HR)**, on behalf of the whole Play Europe group, described in details what is the perspective of this group of European youngsters on the topics of work and family balance, youth employment, education, culture and creativity, volunteering and third sector and youth inclusion. The delegation, beside the speakers, was composed by: **Alessandro Dal Col** and **Enrico Capiozzo (IT)**, **Yaiza Roa (ES)** and **Aza Lemmer (NL)**.



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SYLVIE CARREGA IS THE NEW PRESIDENT OF ELISAN

Mr. Remo Sernagiotto, former president and new MEP, left the floor to the vice-mayor of the Municipality of Marseille

By Sylvie Carrega

If the lost generation was the generation of men and women who came of age during or immediately following World War I, viewed, as a result of their war experiences and the social upheaval of the time, cynical, disillusioned the magnitude of the risk faced is now the same.



Sylvie Carrega, the new president of ELISAN and vice-mayor of Marseille

Women, young people with disabilities, youth from migrant backgrounds are particularly exposed to early school leaving, to poverty, marginalization, inactivity and addictions. Furthermore the problem is not only of economic nature but also as such in the European Union project is worsening and collapsing. In such a context active citizenship would be about having the right, the means, the space and the opportunities and where necessary the support to engage in actions so as to contribute to building a better society. Be an active player is the key message of the Play Europe project.

Elisan programme of work for the years to come is in line with the European Commission's strategy to develop growth and jobs and to modernize social protection systems. Indeed Youth employment is high on the agenda together with the support of young people in vulnerable conditions fighting the non take up of social rights and benefits for people in vulnerable conditions. Inaction is not an option to have a chance to take part in decision making process.

Whatever orientation you wish to take, have your own identity, values, needs, wants, contributions and talents ideas expressed and heard. Among young people are potential philosophers, scientists, artists, writers, entrepreneurs, people who will create and develop Europe's culturally rich and unique traditions.

Youth often have to struggle hard to be recognized as actors of change, to participate in public life and to take forward democratic developments, Elisan chooses to listen, train and empower them with opportunities to enhance their huge potential as European leaders.



Sylvie Carrega (center), with the former president Mr. Remo Sernagiotto, Barbara Trentin, Christian Ragger and Beate Prettner (Carinthia Region)



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First time speaking on a high-level EU conference: expectations & reactions

Levi (BE), Martina (HR), Aza (NL), Yaiza (ES), Alessandro and Enrico (IT): it's up to you!

By Play Europe delegation in Brussels

CREATIVITY: we realized that creativity is mentioned in most of the school curricula all around Europe, but even if it is seen as an essential part of learning, the extent to which creativity is really part of learning seems to be limited, because of the fact that “creative ideas” and “creative thinking” are not enough. We should move creativity from an abstract dimension towards a more concrete one: to use creativity in a tangible way, declined around the main social issues.

INCLUSION: the next European generations should have a more empathic, progressive way of thinking and participate more on the local, national and international level. This participation can be of a political kind or for instance as a community worker. By making the social surroundings of youngsters more relevant to them, we hope to stimulate a positive and proactive attitude. In short, we believe social inclusion is a product of social engagement.

EMPLOYMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP: one of the most important opportunity to reduce the youth unemployment rate is the creation of new companies. To support the creation of new startups gives the opportunity to increase the technological development, increase the demand and production, create high level occupation.

WORK-LIFE BALANCE: the crisis affected also the budgets dedicated to “public services”, in particular in the social field. Child education services, child caring services, elderly caring services (in particular the one’s with severe disability) cannot reach out all the population and citizens, with a strong responsibility falling into parent’s shoulders, because of a lack of fund. Finally, more elderly means stronger commitment in caring that often is still on women’s shoulders.

VOLUNTEERING & PARTICIPATION: there is a need for a further development of a culture of volunteering in order to rely less on “ad hoc” volunteering. In order to do so, it is important to develop a “good infrastructure” for volunteering, in particular at local level. There is a need to teach the youth not only how to be a volunteer, but also how to “manage” volunteering: by acting this way, they would learn how to “take the initiative” and how to be the main actor for the positive change of the society.

Play Europe Delegation:



*Levi
Algoet*



*Martina
Benolic*



*Yaiza
Roa*



*Alessandro
Dal Col*



*Enrico
Capiozzo*



*Aza
Lemmer*



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Some shots from Brussels event
BRUSSELS (Belgium) / 3 November 2014



HOW TO FIND PLAY EUROPE PROJECT ON THE WEB

Play Europe Website: www.playeurope.eu

Play Europe on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/playeurope?ref=ts>