JuCiVol

a mentoring for educators to support youngsters in a volunteering





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Co-authors:

dr. Mónica Ibáñez Angulo, Universidad de Burgos (Spain) dr Bénédicte HALBA, Institute for research and Information on Volunteering (France) dr Andrea Cenderello, ERIFO, Ente per la Ricerca e Formazione (Italy) dr. Marjeta Pisk, Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU) (Slovenia) dr. Loucas Antoniou, Cyprus Labour Institute (INEK-PEO), Cyprus

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Main points for designing a mentoring for professionals working with youngsters "at risk"

The framework of the mentoring is divided in 6 main parts:

- 1- Introduction- general provision for understanding the mentoring
- 2- Macro-level: the national environment as a first step, professionals must be aware of the institutional and/or legal framework off Volunteering in their respective countries and its official recognition especially in the Education & Training perspective
- 3- Meso-level- as a second step, professionals must know the characteristics of the voluntary organisations the most relevant for welcoming youngsters and so for them to acquire a voluntary experience
- 4- Micro-level: as a third step, mentors must be able to set an "ideal profile" of professionals working with youngsters "at risk" their profile and requirements to support properly youngsters in the JuCiVol process
- 5- Theoretical reference for the mentoring Volunteering issues, Non formal and informal learning & informal education and Intercultural learning
- 6- Pedagogical approach for the mentoring- a 3 step approach is designed together with the content of the 5 sessions to be followed by professionals to support properly youngsters

Annexes

- Feedbacks received for the mentoring- during the testing among professionals- educators in a broad sense
- Glossary- key definitions relevant for mentors to go further in the theoretical & pedagogical content
- **Bibliography** & list of relevant projects
- Competences gathered to design & test the JuCiVol approach- the European team

1. Introduction- general provision

The Junior Citizens through Volunteering (JuCiVol) project refers to the recommendation published by the European Commission at the end of the European Year of Volunteering (EYV2011) "Volunteering is a creator of human and social capital. It is a pathway to integration and employment and a key factor for improving social cohesion. Above all, volunteering translates the fundamental values of justice, solidarity, inclusion and citizenship upon which Europe is founded into action". Therefore the JuCiVol project is meant to strengthen the culture of democratic values, fundamental rights and raise awareness on an active Citizenship by enhancing volunteering and participation in associations among youngsters. It addresses as a first public professionals working with youngsters considered "at risk" as are in a disadvantaged social position because of their migrant background or because they are living in underprivileged neighborhoods. They may have been excluded from school without any diploma and belong to the so-called category of "Not in Education nor in Employment or in Training" (NEET).

The JUCIVOL designs a mentoring for professionals- teachers and educators - combining both a theoretical approach in reference to the European framework, and a practical approach to support those professionals to identify and assess experience & competence linked to a voluntary involvement on the basis of the training for youngsters designed in complement to this mentoring and addressing youngsters. The better educators are aware of the main difficulties faced by their public in the learning process, the better they will be equipped to offer an innovative way based on volunteering understood as an alternative and innovative learning strategy.

The first aim of the mentoring is for the first public of the JUCIVOL, professionals- teachers & educators – to be able to identify the main obstacles to an effective volunteering or more generally to the application of the associative right among youngsters who are less sensitive to this fundamental right for European citizens. The idea is to improve their access to political, economic, cultural and educational rights thanks to a voluntary action on the ground. The knowledge of such barriers and obstacles to become a volunteer are fundamental to support youngsters.

Another main aim of the mentoring is for teachers & educators to be familiar with the Copenhagen process meant to combine a formal learning – acquired at school or in any formal training- with a non-formal and informal learning - acquired outside school or in untraditional learning environment such as associations. The Bologna process, focused on formal learning, is more familiar to teachers and educators especially with the expression of the diploma and qualification in terms of competences. The Copenhagen is complementary especially in the Valuing Prior Learning process that might be much relevant for the profiles of youngsters addressed by the JUCIVOL as they are reluctant to traditional form of learning- in class rooms.

A third main aim of the mentoring is therefore for educators to be supported to apply properly the training designed for youngsters (first output of the JUCIVOL) considered at risk of exclusion. The training is therefore a constant reference of the mentoring. All along the process, many tools & methods might be identified in order to complete the pedagogical support suggested by both the training & mentoring designed for the JUCIVOL. This is a proactive process- professionals are asked to complete their mentoring with any relevant tool or strategy they may find to achieve the goal of the JUCIVOL- offering an alternative strategy to youngsters at risk to be included bot socially and professionally thanks to a volunteering.

2. Macro-level- knowing the national environment

The first step for any professional willing to apply the innovative pedagogical approach suggested by the JUCIVOL (training for youngsters), is to be informed on the general context of Volunteering in their respective countries. The more a voluntary experience is valued and officially recognized in their respective countries, the easier it will be for them to be convincing among youngsters but also among people in charge of employment or training to offer opportunities on the basis of a voluntary experience.

On the occasion of the European Year of Volunteering (EYV 2011), national reports were published in the 27 countries of the European Union detailing: general information on volunteering and volunteers (definition, history, voluntary activities), institutional framework (main organizations relevant & any national policy or programmers), legal framework (law, legal provisions), plus the economic, social and cultural dimension of volunteering (funding, key benefits) and its official recognition in matters of education & training (volunteers' skills and competences within the national educational & training system). These reports should be main pedagogical supports for professionals as they need to be updated and illustrated with concrete examples selected on their own experience.

Professionals must also be familiar, on a macro-level, with the Copenhagen process meant to value non-formal and informal learning as a volunteering is a main example for such a learning (Halba, 2014). The implementation of learning activities takes place in varying degrees of formality in the three kinds of education: informal, non-formal and formal (Huber & Reynolds, 2014). Therefore volunteering and voluntary activities should be explained as being part of alternative educative strategies for youngsters "at risk" to reengage in educative or professional opportunities to struggle against the "NEET" issue.

Legal framework for volunteering in the different countries

volunteering is one of the main components of the Spanish third sector and is regulated by the National Law 6/1996, 15th of January (*Ley Nacional 6/1996 sobre Volontariado*) replaced by a new Law in 2015 updating the context of a volunteering.

no legal framework for volunteering but a main reference law for associations- the 1901 Act which states that an association must be created and managed by volunteers benefiting from some provisions (social time, VPL...) with some specific laws adopted since.

The Pan Cyprian Volunteerism Coordinative Council Law of 2006 is the most significant legislation- it gives a definition for a volunteer together with the organisation of the voluntary sector in Cyprus

the legal basis is the law 266/91 defining 6 main criteria: composed of volunteers, with a legal form compatible with solidarity, with democratic principles, gratuitousness, driven by a solidarity purpose with official obligations to 6

the Law on Volunteering of 2011 (updated in 2015) is the first one to have regulated the wider areas of socially beneficial work and defines volunteering as socially beneficial work of the individual and voluntary organisations, whose activities, knowledge and experience to contribute to raising the standard of living of individuals and society

3. Meso-level- finding relevant infrastructure

Volunteering infrastructure is a combination of organisational structures and support mechanisms which together provide the enabling environment needed to encourage and adequately support volunteer involvement for the benefit of society as a whole. Organisational structures composing the volunteering infrastructure include volunteer-involving organisations (such as voluntary organisations, public and private, non-profit and for-profit institutions) and support organisations (such as volunteer centres, volunteer development agencies, umbrella organisations, and networks) at all levels (international, European, national, regional, and local) adopting a Multi-level Governance approach. Volunteering infrastructure fulfils several key roles which make it fundamental for the further development of volunteering across Europe, among which: provision and/or facilitation of quality volunteering opportunities ; support for volunteers (such as training, counselling, evaluation etc.); matching the supply and demand of volunteering; capacity building and good practice exchange among volunteer-involving organisations; removal of barriers to volunteering; awareness-raising with regard to the value of volunteering for both the individual and the society and ; influencing policy environment in areas where volunteering takes place in order to build an enabling environment where volunteering can flourish (European Volunteer Center, 2017).

Professionals must know the different kinds of not for profit organisations in their country:

- 1- Umbrella organization- also called "national Volunteer center"- each national body is member of the European Volunteer Center
- 2- Single organizations on a local, regional or national level- they are managed by a board of volunteers a list is available on line
- 3- Organizations of international solidarity- their volunteers are usually highly qualified and older than the "average" volunteer

Voluntary organisations in the different countries



a voluntary organisation is an organisation legally constituted, a corporate entity, non-profitable and carrying out activities of general interest. There is a registration system where some ministries register voluntary organisations according to their main range of activities.

an association is the main infrastructure of not for profit organisation supporting and welcoming volunteers. The 1901 Act establishes the right of every citizen to be a member (passive role) and/or to become a volunteer (active role)

since 1925, there have been several legislation relevant pertaining to voluntary activities, non-profit organisations and the voluntary sector (1925: Charities law; 1930: the Clubs Law; 1989: the Pan Cyprian Welfare Council Law establishing competences of the council for voluntary sector)

Voluntary organizations (*organizzazioni di Volontariato-* OdV) gather 6 different legal entities: association, social promotion association, volunteering service centers, social cooperatives, non-profit entities and foundation.

Slovenian legislation does not recognize the term "nongovernmental organization"- instead there are three main legal entities: associations, foundations and private institutes. Since 2006, the cooperation must follow the rules published by the Volunteering Ethics Code.

4. Micro-level- insisting on relevant profiles

The mentoring addresses the first **direct public of the** JuCiVol: professionals working with youngsters- educators in the broad sense - local networks in school/outside school. They need to be supported and better equipped. Through the JuCiVol process they will be prepared to support youngsters to be involved in a voluntary experience and to assess this experience and express it in terms of skills & competences.

The professionals to be involved in the JuCiVol process is composed of teachers and educators- working with youngsters in civil society organizations, neighborhood and school councils.

The main requirement for those professionals working with youngsters "at risks" to support them on the JuCiVol process are the following:

- 1- **how to reach youngsters** being able to identify the main obstacles to the effective exercise of volunteeringespecially the unpaid part as this might be a way for many youngsters to b reluctant to such an activity
- 2- how to explain the positive outcomes of volunteering and participation in associations of the civil society – having a learning approach in terms of alternative education with a way to re-engage in training or professional activity
- 3- how to offer concrete opportunities to youngsters on the ground to enhance volunteering being able to propose a concrete and appropriate voluntary action in order to provide to youngsters a relevant experience in the perspective of the recognition of volunteers' skills and competences within the national educational and training system

Recognition of volunteers' skills in the different countries

volunteers' skills and competences are not accredited/recognised within the context of the national education and training system as such but there are some developments. Nevertheless it is recognised that participating in voluntary activities gives an individual confidence, dignity and expertise

the value of the volunteering experience has been recognised in a pioneer legislation for assessing non formal an informal learning- the 2002 social modernisation law on VAE (validation of experience) which allows an access to a diploma or qualification on the basis of a voluntary experience

the PVCC (umbrella organisation for voluntary organisations) offers a series of education and training opportunities for volunteers and voluntary organisations through its training, development and research centre.

Volunteering in relation to young people is particularly viewed as a civic experience- an opportunity to sensitise them to become responsible citizens and been concerned by vulnerable citizens (elderly, migrants...). Several training opportunities are offered to volunteers.

Recent educational reform has given voluntary work an important place in the educational system- it is now part of the compulsory curricula in general secondary schools and certain types of high school.

5. Theoretical reference for the mentoring

In the first place, mentors to support educators must have as main reference the **European Year of Volunteering (2011)** and the GHK study (2010) with its main outputs- national reports published.

A Commission-initiated study estimated that in 2010 some 100 million Europeans are engaged in voluntary activities. Nevertheless peoples' participation in volunteering varies widely across the European Union. In many European Member States, adults aged between 30 and 50 years are the most active although the number of younger is increasing. Volunteering takes place in many sectors- the biggest area for volunteering is sport, followed by social care, welfare and health.

On the basis of the GHK study and the study conducted by the Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, USA, 2011), one of the potential obstacles to volunteering is a lack of recognition. Skills that are gained through volunteering activities are not always sufficiently recognized or given credit.

As outlined by the EU "Volunteering is a creator of human and social capital. It is a pathway to integration and employment and a key factor for improving social cohesion. Above all, volunteering translates the fundamental values of justice, solidarity, inclusion and citizenship upon which Europe is founded into action. (.../...) Indeed, volunteering activities are implicitly linked with many European Union policy areassuch as lifelong learning, rural development and sport- where they add a valuable dimension to European Union programmes".

In particular the active participation of young people in society can be fostered through volunteering. If youngsters are well informed about voluntary activities they are likely to continue to be active volunteers – they are one of the priorities of the youth policy cooperation process.

Source: EC (2011), Communication on EU policies and Volunteering, Brussels & GHK

In the second place, mentors must be familiar with the **European Guidelines for** validating non-formal and informal learning (2009 & 2015)

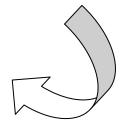
They are meant to enhance the Copenhagen process and promote European cooperation in Vocational Education and training (VET). A voluntary experience is the best example of on non-formal and informal learning. Experts in lifelong learning suggest a variety of pedagogical tools & strategies used to identify and assess such learning such as portfolio, interviews... already experienced in the different European countries mainly to promote Valuing Prior Learning for learners who may have been reluctant to formal learning (acquired at school). A recommendation of the Council of the European Union (2012) points out the importance of actively involving the voluntary sector in the implementation of validation: "youth organizations and civil society organizations should promote and facilitate the identification and documentation of learning outcomes acquired at work or in voluntary activities, using relevant Union transparent tools such as those developed under the Europass framework and YouthPass". Validating non formal and informal learning can have two main forms (formative and summative): the formative approach to assessment (1) is important as it draws attention to the identification of knowledge, skills and wider competences, a crucial part of lifelong learning; the summative validation (2) needs to have a clearly defined and unambiguous link to the standards used in the national qualifications system (or framework). These two approaches for assessing non formal and informal learning don't lead to a certification. (Cedefop, 2009 & 2015)

In the third place, mentors must be familiar with Intercultural learning (Lafraya, 2011)

It has been central to European youth work. Since the beginning (after the Second World War) it has played an essential role in countering stereotypical and prejudicial racist views and therefore trying to undo the damage caused by racial ideologies. In today's globalized world, Huber & Reynolds underline that individual require special skills for intercultural learning and dialogue within multicultural communities and societies. Associations or any not for profit organization may be the place for the implementation of intercultural learning on a local level. The status of intercultural learning has grown both politically and in terms of policy for Youth (EC, Kiev, 2008)

6- Mentoring – a 3 step approach

1st step- being able to implement a formal and informal learning process & being aware of the role of informal educator identifying difficulties faced by youngsters and supporting them in a voluntary experience (Sessions 1&2)



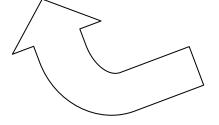
3rd step- reflexive process on one's mentoring (Session 5)

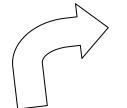
Question 1- what have I learnt through the JuCiVol **Question 2-** what have been the positive/negative points **Question 3-** what is the most relevant achievement?

2nd step- being able to identify and assess the skills & competences acquired thanks to this volunteering – on the basis of the training for youngsters (tool designed as 1st output of the JuCiVol)

(Sessions 3 & 4)

linked to educative reasons linked to social reasons linked to economic reason





Sessions for the mentoring - methodology

5 sessions are required for the mentoring among professionals – it is suggested 2 sessions just with professionals (sessions 1 & 5) & 3 sessions gathering professionals and youngsters (sessions 2,3 & 4) - but it is flexible according to the educators needs & profiles.

Suggestion of points to be followed in the learning session

- session 1 : explaining the general context of a mentoring taking into account the specificities of the JuCiVolexplaining non formal and informal learning & informal education to educators to help them support youngsters session only with educators
- session 2 supporting educators to identify the main difficulties faced by youngsters "at risk"
 Session gathering educators & youngsters
- session 3: supporting educators to apply properly the tool & process designed by the training from a voluntary experience to relevant skills & competences
 Session gathering educators & youngsters
- session 4 : supporting educators to build an action plan for youngsters on the basis of the identified competences based on the voluntary experience
 Session gathering educators & youngsters
- session 5 : being able to conduct an appropriate selfassessment after having supporting educators- a reflexive approach - session only with educators

Work to be done by tutor/trainer during the sessions: taking notes of the feedback received from the youngsters and problems faced Learning outcomes expected for educators: being able to support youngsters with a special profiles in an innovative learning process- a volunteering based on a concrete experience

Main objectives

The mentoring for professionals working with youngsters- educators in a broad sense- is the second output expected for the JUCIVOL. Closely linked to the training for youngsters- first output achieved for the JUCIVOL- the methodology may appear similar but the learning outcomes (LO) differ: The mentoring aims at:

- Being able to understand volunteering as an innovative learning process and the competences gained thanks to voluntary activities as a way to acquire non formal and informal learning by youngsters
- Being aware that supporting youngsters "at risk" in their voluntary experience is therefore a way to behave as non-formal educator with the benefits it may imply compare to more traditional other learning
- Being able to identify the main difficulties faced by youngsters considered "at risk" as they are in a disadvantaged social position because of their migrant background or because they are living in underprivileged neighborhoods.
- Being able to apply a pedagogical guidance within existing associations insisting using properly a tool & process designed for the training of youngsters to support them in their volunteering (1st output of the JUCIVOL)
- Being able to implement a reflexive approach on the basis of the feedback mentors & tutors have received & will receive from youngsters (during their testing) and after having been through the 3 step approach of the mentoring
- Being able to build and enrich a network to support the sustainability of the innovative learning process offered by the JuCiVol in a longer term transversal approach among key stakeholders (thanks to session 1 in particular)

Session 1 – being aware of the role of educators & teachers as non-formal educators

Mentoring in VET is generally understood as a process whereby an experienced VET teacher/trainer is given responsibility for helping the beginning teacher/trainer/educator by providing emotional, social (introducing beginners into the institutional norms and values of the organization/domain of activity) and professional level support (Gray & alii, 2013).

One of the most important challenges that education policy makers have had to face in the past years has been to find ways to increase recognition of the value of non-formal education among young people. It is essential for the personal development and life-long learning of individuals. The inadequacy of courses dedicated to civic issues in further and higher education institutions to ensure active citizenship among young people is also symptomatic of the need for complementary non-formal education methodologies where the skills and competences necessary to be an active citizen in society are acquired. Not only "academic qualifications" but also practical skills are not so easy to be taught and learnt in formal education as they are learned through 'hands-on" practical experience and thus more effectively gained in non-formal environments (Youth Forum Jeunesse, 2003).

As far as the JuCiVol is concerned, the educators must be aware and properly trained to be able to support youngsters in valuing their voluntary experience in terms of skills and competences in order to work with them on Vocational Education & Training (VET) opportunities as a volunteering mays be considered as a relevant professional experience if the outputs are clearly identified.

Practical way to proceed

Duration: flexible according to the educators needs and expectations- 45 minutes to 2-3 hours (or more)

Roundtable among educators : presenting themselves and asking their knowledge on volunteering as a non-formal learning and/or education

- Volunteering such as involvement, active citizenship....
- Volunteering as a non-formal and informal learning
- Supporting Volunteering as a part of non-formal education

Work in small groups with educators

on the basis of the national report for volunteering in their country, mentors are asked to work on the following topics:

- Volunteering and its recognition in their respective countries
- Volunteers and the role they play in the city, society...
- A voluntary experience have they been volunteers? do they know people who volunteered ?

After a short concertation among educators, the mentor gives key data on informal and non-formal learning, non-formal education and the role played by volunteering in this perspective :

- general knowledge on volunteering with clear information on the institutional framework
- clear understanding on the legal/official recognition of a voluntary experience

Session 2 – supporting educators to identify difficulties faced by youngsters

A mentor may help educators acquire new subject knowledge. However, her/his role is much wider than this. The relationship between mentor and learner (educator) is a much more interpersonal one, in which the mentor provides personal support and reassurance, in part, to boost the confidence and self-esteem of the learner. The primary aim of the mentor is to ease the passage of a novice VET teacher into the profession. (Gray & alii, 2013)

In a first step, educators have to identify the main difficulties faced by youngsters in order to suggest an appropriate strategy

- 1- Educative barriers- are they Early School Leavers (ESL) or are they youngsters Not in Education nor in Employment nor in Training (NEET) ?
- 2- **Social barriers** are they faced to a social exclusion linked to their family background or to the place where they live ?
- 3- **Economic barriers-** are they faced to main financial issues which would prevent them to initiate any action (no money for paying any costs linked to the action) ?
- 4- **Cultural barriers** are they nationals or their mother tongue is a foreign language?

Main added value of the JUCIVOL to overcome these barriers

- a) a volunteering as a way to renew with an educative path,
- b) a volunteering as a way to meet people from various backgrounds and diverse profiles
- c) a volunteering as a way to acquire a relevant professional experience and therefore to increase one's employability
- d) a volunteering as a way to speak and communicate in the national language

Practical way to proceed

Duration: flexible according to the educators needs and expectations- 45 minutes to 2-3 hours (or more)

Plenary session: explaining the main obstacles to become a volunteer for youngsters "at risk" of exclusion

In small groups: asking educators to work in two parts-

- 1- the Pros- all the reasons why youngsters would become volunteers
 - Meeting people with different profiles
 - Defending a cause
 - Being useful to vulnerable people (elderly, sick people...)
 - Acquiring an experience on the ground in a field of activity
- 2- the Cons- all the reasons why youngsters wouldn't become volunteers
 - o unpaid activity they couldn't afford
 - an activity requiring skills or qualifications
 - o an activity for people with a specific "profile"
 - o a "trap" to do something for nothing

Presenting the results of the small groups in plenary session

- Each group has 10 to 15 minutes to present the result of the work done in small groups
- Each presentation is followed by a general discussion in order for each group to ask any question

- Being aware of the main motivations and main obstacles to become a volunteer
- better understanding of the assets & drawbacks of such an activity for youngsters "at risk"

Session 3 – applying the 4 step approach designed by the training for youngsters

Main point to keep in mind when following the 4 step approach suggested by the training designed for the JUCIVOL:

- 1- for detailing a voluntary experience 1st step of the tool & process- educators & teachers will have to ask appropriate questions to youngsters in order to make them speak of their experience in both a precise and synthetically way
- 2- for selecting relevant missions and making the link between the missions and key competences 6 or 7- 2nd step of the tool & process- educators & teachers have to explain in an easy and clear way the content of each of the two key competence using the EU framework with a relevant example understandable by youngsters
- 3- for assessing the level of master of the competence acquired by youngsters according to the 5 level grid -3^{rd} step of the tool & process- educators & teachers must ask relevant questions to youngsters to check its reality- the difference between a collective & autonomous competence is sometimes tiny
- 4- for building an action plan taking into account different scenarios 4th step of the tool & process- educators & teachers must be very clear on the most achievable scenario taking into account a short term, medium term and longer term approach. During the process, educators & teachers may swap from one scenario to another as the learning process is not linear and one "new" experience may be decisive for youngsters.

Practical way to proceed

Duration: flexible according to the educators needs and expectations- 45 minutes to 2-3 hours (or more)

Plenary session : explaining the 4 step approach of the training for youngsters designed in the first step of the JUCIVOL

In small groups: mentors are asked to : prepare a list of missions commonly offered in association trying to illustrate them with concrete examples for instance by interviewing associations; express the missions in terms of competences ; suggest an assessment on the basis of a tangible experience

Presenting the results of the small groups in plenary session

- Each group (2 to 3 mentors) presents in 10 to 15 minutes the result of the work done in small groups
- Each presentation is followed by a general discussion in order for the other mentors to ask any question

Brain storming among mentors

- They are asked to select one mission per group
- They explain how far this mission is linked to KC6 or KC7
- They suggest the level of master that should be required
- They anticipate the

- Applying concretely tool to identify & assess a competence
- Being able to build an action plan
- Being able to anticipate on an educative or professional future

Session 4 – building an action plan with youngsters

In order to design a relevant action plan, it is crucial for educators & teachers to be familiar with the competence approach as it is transversal to the JuCiVol process.

In complement to the definition given by the Cedefop (glossary), the term may be used with different meaning- a casual everyday use as a synonym for ability, a technical use within vocational education and training (VET) and a more developed use to denote the ability to meet complex demands within a given contact. Competence is understood not merely as a matter of skills applied in a given context but as a combination of attitudes, knowledge, understanding and skills applied through action in any relevant situation. Competence is the capacity to respond successfully to types of situations which present tasks, difficulties or challenges for the individual, either singly or together with others. Since situations of the same type may vary in a range of different ways, competence is always susceptible to enrichment or further learning through exposure to, and acting in response to, this variation. (Huber & Reynolds, 2017).

Therefore the action plan to be built by educators & teachers together with youngsters may vary depending on : the level of experience & competence acquired and the expected VET aim : 1- Scenario 1– few voluntary experience or irrelevant for the VET aim- suggestion : finding a more appropriate volunteering 2- Scenario 2 – relevant voluntary experience (time & tasks) with tangible results- suggestion: applying for a job in the labour market employment or for a training to validate the competences 3- Scenario 3- relevant voluntary experience (time, tasks, responsibility) with tangible and valuable results- suggestion: initiating a Recognition of Prior Learning to have an access to a diploma or qualification

Practical way to proceed

Duration: flexible according to the educators needs and expectations- 45 minutes to 2-3 hours (or more)

Plenary session : explaining the competence approach and the 8 key competences with a focus on the "soft skills" acquired through a volunteering (attitude, behaviour, feelings...) as opposed to "hard skills" focused on a professional know-how and expertise

In small groups: asking educators to work on the two key competences selected for the JuCiVol : KC6- social and civic competence or KC7- sense of initiative and entrepreneurship and in addition to the intercultural competence defined as a combination of attitudes, knowledge, understanding and skills applied through action which enables one, either singly or together with others (Huber & Reynolds, 2014).

Presenting the results of the small groups in plenary session

- Each group (2 to 3 educators) presents in 10 to 15 minutes the result of the work done in small groups
- Each presentation is followed by a general discussion in order for the other educators to ask any question

- general knowledge on 2 main key competences relevant for volunteering
- understanding the competence approach and applying it to a specific activity- volunteering
- being able to assess a voluntary experience in applying a specific process
- being able to support youngsters in the Recognition of Prior Learning on the basis of a voluntary experience

Session 5 – **reflexive process**

The last session is dedicated to a self-assessment of the educators & teachers after having supported youngsters on the ground reminding of the different learning outcomes achieved through the process:

- 1- LO1- better knowledge on non-formal and informal learning and the informal & non formal education
- 2- LO2- better knowledge and awareness of volunteering as a main activity to enhance active citizenship and intercultural learning
- 3- LO3- being able to identify the main obstacles faced by youngsters whatever the kind of barriers- educative, social, economic or cultural
- 4- **LO4** being able to identify a relevant voluntary experience in terms of tasks to be fulfilled, responsibilities to be assumed and tangible outputs to be achieved
- 5- LO5- being able to apply a specific tool & process to identify and assess a voluntary experience on the basis of the JUCIVOL tool – a 4 step approach – inspired by the portfolio process and following a grid of levels of competences
- 6- **LO6** being able to build an action plan with youngsters considered "at risk" on the basis of the voluntary experience they have acquired and to make concrete suggestions
- 7- LO7- being able to apply the SWOT analysis approach & to have a critical thinking on their professional practice and therefore to have a feedback on one's own professional practice

Professionals -educators & teachers having followed at least 3 out of the 5 sessions recommended by the JuCiVol are delivered a certificate by the organisation habilitated to support them – one of the 5 partners of the European team with the compulsory mentions (logo, number of the project, description of tasks, length of time...)

Practical way to proceed

Duration: flexible according to the educators needs and expectations- 45 minutes to 2-3 hours (or more)

Plenary session : reminding of the different aims of the mentoring, applying the SWOT analysis and implementing a self-assessment

In small groups: asking the professionals to

- 1- **Step back:** What have the different sessions & support provided brought them- positive/negative points
- 2- Go into further details SWOT analysis- what were the Strength/ Opportunities/ Weaknesses/ Threat identified during the mentoring ?
- 3- **Apply the assessment to themselves-** what have they learnt or what should they change in the future to improve their support to youngsters?

Brain storming with educators

- How far the JUCIVOL project may have helped them to clarify their thoughts and ideas, open doors or perspectives on a specific kind of learning (non -formal & informal) volunteering ?
- How far they have improved their professional practice with a focus on the support provided to youngsters "at risk"?
- How far they have appreciated being informal educators" and how would they define this pedagogical approach?

- Being able to assess a training activity
- Being able to apply to oneself the assessment
- Being able to anticipate a change in the role I play- from mentee to mentor

Annexes

- A. Testing & piloting the JuCiVol approach in the 5 countries
 - a. Profiles of the mentors involved
 - b. Feedbacks gathered by the JUCIVOL team among professionals during the testing conducted in the 5 countries
- B. Glossary relevant to understand the theoretical and pedagogical approach applied in the JUCIVOL mentoring
- C. Bibliography- key notions and definitions useful for mentors
- D. Key projects relevant for the mentoring- ideas of tools & strategies already applied in the different countries
- E. Professional profiles of the team to give an idea of the experience and competences relevant to train mentors

A- Testing & Piloting the mentoring

1st step- selecting 15 educators-tutors/trainers- working with youngsters "at risk" – living in disadvantaged area or drop outs or NEET- profiles described in the training (October-December 2017)

 2^{nd} step: learning session implemented among educatorstutors/trainers. It aims to: identify specific problems faced; explain the mentoring approach; discuss relevant strategy to support youngsters ; enrich the mentoring designed. Methods: Practical exchanges, theoretical contributions ; learning by doing strategy (November 2017 – May 2018)

3rd step – gathering feedbacks received through national sessions ; identifying common issues ; exchanging on good practices ; enriching the mentoring for educators. Methods: Conceptual contribution, workshops, pedagogical productions- (May 2018)

4th step – validating the final version of the mentoring for educators on the basis of the testing conducted in the 5 countries ; elements of practices ; good practices and methods ; additional pedagogical tools & strategies to support educators. Methods: analysis of practices, conceptualization, theoretical contributions (deadline- June 2018)

Feedbacks expected from educators they are asked to think of the main difficulties faced by youngsters they are working with , the methods they have already experimented to overcome the difficulties and the usefulness of the JuCiVol approach to facilitate their transition in the labour market or in a n educative path in order to promote empowerment process and citizenship

The professional profiles of mentors

- They were quite diverse social workers, trainers, councilors for youngsters considered "at risk" as they live in sensitive urban areas
- As far as France is concerned they were also youngsters living in sensitive urban areas having been trained and who could justify from a voluntary experience

Explaining difficulties faced by mentors

- Motivating youngsters
- Involving youngsters in the long term
- Being enough supported/equipped to the JuCiVol approach

Feedback & recommendation received from mentors

- 1st being explained both the benefits and drawbacks of a voluntary experience in order to be prepared to any remark/question
- 2nd being sufficiently trained to the key competence approach with concrete gains/assets for the learners
- 3rd comparing/sharing their experience with other mentors in other territories/countries

Methods or tools relevant for the JuCiVol mentoring

- 1st method: training for volunteers
- 2nd method : training for key competences
- 3rd method : collaborative approach (horizontal learning process)



- Organisations associated Employment Officer of the Pancyprian Federation Of Labour, Youth Club leaders in different sub-urban and rural areas, associations and NGOs working on migration issues
- Location: Cyprus and Paphos

Main suggestions made for the improvement of the mentoring

- 1st the 4-step approach could be made to 5-step by adding another step after step 4 Building an Action Plan. She couldn't specify what exactly. As I perceived it, a step on how to implement the Action Plan is required.
- 2nd more time should be devoted in explaining step-3 regarding the evaluation of volunteering experiences of youngsters, the logic behind going such a process and its usefulness for developing action plans.

- 1st Most professionals viewed the tool as something that it was missed to this moment from the pool of their educational material and necessary in performing an inclusive training with youngsters.
- 2nd The focus of the tool in the different groups of youngsters at risks has been viewed as innovative and inclusive practice.
- 3rd the tool can be modified easily and used for implementing it to more groups of youngsters
- 4th- the tool could be a starting point for them to rethink volunteering in new terms influencing them to engage or re-engage differencing in providing assistance to youngsters.
- 5th- the approach of the tool may contribute to further development of volunteering action in Cyprus, influence the construction of new tools that will help together the quality and quantitative participation of youngsters in volunteering
- 6th an opportunity to engage more productively with the civic organizations of their district in order to identify the real volunteering needs



- Organisations associated missions locales (for youngsters) in Essonne (Ile de France) and Lourdes (Occitanie), CRPVE (resource center for professionals working in sensitive urban areas), NGO in Yvelines (Ile de France) and a school for a second chance in Montereau (Seine et Marne), Cité Saint Pierre (Caritas France)
- Location 5 cities in Ile de France and 1 city in Occitanie (a region in the South East of France)

Main suggestions made for the improvement of the mentoring

- 1st sessions among mentors in the first place and in the final session combined with sessions together with youngsters they are meant to support
- 2nd a simplified pedagogical support in the first place and in a second place the more elaborated version of the mentoring (final support)
- 3rd comparison with other cities/regions and other countries (feedbacks of the 4 other countries of the JuCiVol are expected)
- 4th- being able to work together with the youngsters involved in the testing in a longer term

- 1st Trainers are quite convinced by the circular approach of the portfolio, the main pedagogical method designed in both the training (4 step approach) & mentoring (the 3 step approach).
- 2nd The main point for them was the dynamic process- at the end of the 3/4 step approach, the learner has enriched his/her learning through the process and maybe new ideas or perspectives have emerged
- 3rd The written part may be too demanding for youngsters- they will have to be supported on a personal level in the first place and then become more autonomous.
- 4th- Most of them have discovered the portfolio approach. The portfolio approach has also to follow the 5 levels of competence
- 5th- The SWOT analysis approach as a final session is very needed as this is also a transversal approach to be used in any kind of activitylearning, training, activity on the ground
- 6th- The reflexive approach and the critical thinking on his/her own professional practice is a main achievement of the mentoring.



- Organisations associated 15 organisations such as MuLab (No Profit Association), Consorzio Ro.Ma (VET provider & business consulting organization), Agenfap (development and innovation of knowledge and people), Caritas (diocesan Caritas of Rome), SPI (Employment Service, interlocutor for employers and job seekers), Ordine Psicologi Lazio (Order of Psychologists, a non-economic public body supervised by the Ministry of Health), La Sapienza (public University in Rome)....
- Location Rome (Latium) and around

Main suggestions made for the improvement of the mentoring

- 1st tools are well-structured, but it could be further upgraded. As an example, tailoring the workshop even more for youngster necessities, based on their composition (nationality, culture, religion), in order to better match their needs. In addition, it would be useful to have multi-cultural classes, where the diversity of youngster may represent an incentive in promote exchange between them.
- 2nd Regarding the testing sessions, professionals believes that some changes in the length of different sessions may be an advantage for the success of the project.

- 1st Jucivol tools play an important role in promoting social inclusion, enhancing the social skills of participants and improving self-esteem
- 2nd the tools developed give young people the possibility to be actively involved in the sessions is a good way to make them sufficiently aware of how participation, knowledge sharing and the understanding of the key elements for the participation in the socio-economic life are the best tools to be/feel a citizen in a democratic society.
- 3rd the reusability of the instrument developed, namely its adaptability to be used elsewhere and in other contexts.
- 4th- mentoring sessions were well structured and especially centered on the real necessities of disadvantaged and socially excluded young people.
- 5th- after a group discussion open to all the audience, it would be necessary to give youngsters more time to develop their personal reflections about what they have learned in the sessions. To increase awareness on this subject it is necessary to stimulate also a personal reflection on what has been learned –specifically in the last session
- 6th- exchanging experiences and knowledge through a peer-to-peer approach between the mentors and the mentees (youngsters). The fact that the trainers are more experienced is a great advantage for the personal growth of the participants



- Organisations associated Zavod MISSS (MISSS Institute, Youth Informative Counseling Center of Slovenia), Humanitarno dobrodelno društvo UP (Charity HOPE), Dijaški dom Postojna SGLŠ (Dormitory at the Postojna secondary forestry and wood school), Srednja gozdarska in lesarska šola Postojna (Postojna secondary forestry and wood school), Srednja zdravstvena šola Ljubljana (Secondary health care school Ljubljana), Srednja poklicna in strokovna šola Bežigrad (Secondary vocational and professional school Bežigrad)
- Location Ljubjana, Jesenice, Postojna

Main suggestions due to difficulties faced during the mentoring

1st - to get access to vulnerable youngsters of this age range since the majority of them do not participate in any organized activity and appear to be invisible in the society has been a main issue; this target group (youngsters between 15-30) is socially excluded in many ways either because of the school drop or the unemployment and very restricted social network; many Muslim females of this age concentrate on the parenting and do not participate in the life outside their traditional society structures. The support of NGOs is a way to solve the issue.

2nd - lack of self-motivation in addition to none direct financial reward presented the main obstacle in organizing the Jucivol training for youngsters ; therefore a financial support might be an asset

Feedback & recommendation received from mentors

1st - The training sessions organized were among participants very well received – the youngsters actively participated as far as their language abilities allowed. The help of the Albanian female participant educated in Slovenia who translated into Albanian less understandable parts of the training proved to be crucial. The training among asylum seekers was conducted in English since none of them comprehend Slovenian language. We relied on a big help of one of the mentors and one Iranian youngster who translated into French and Arabic.

2nd - Most professionals viewed the tool as well structured and corresponding to their needs in working with the youngsters not acquainted to volunteering.

3rd - Professionals stressed as the most positive part of the tool its' inclusiveness and focus on the youngsters in danger of social exclusion

4th- Most professionals found tool as very useful for implementation and enrichment of their regular daily activities.

5th Most professionals saw mentoring session as very well structured and especially very needed in facing the challenges with working with appearing number of migrant youngsters.

6th- suggestion of a forum for discussion to share the experiences among the professionals from different organizations how to overcome the problems of getting reach to the youngsters with migrant background and involve them in support programs.



Organisations associated Fundación Hechos (programs aimed at children, youth and the family, especially in the field of training, socio-labor insertion and international cooperation), Fundación Cauce (itineraries of socio-labor insertion for people at risk of social exclusion), Burgos Acoge (promotion and integration of immigrants in the city and province of Burgos), Accem (specialized in refuge and migration towards the inclusion of people regardless of their origin, sex, race, religion, opinions or social group), The Centre Victoriano Cremer (a public adult education centre), Unión Gitana (ensure basic needs and fundamental rights of the Roma Community of Burgos), Comité Antisida , AntiAIDS Citizen Committee of Burgos (creating structures of help and support for people affected by HIV / AIDS), Biblioteca Pública Centro Cívico San Agustín , San Agustín Civic Center (oriented towards a family audience, integrating traditional library services with new technologies and the leisure), Consejo de la Juventud de Burgos, the Youth Council of Burgos(part of the region wide Youth Council of Castilla y León, represents the valid interlocutor of the young people before the Autonomic Administration and before any institution of public or private character) Location Burgos (region Castilla Leon)

Main suggestions due to difficulties faced during the mentoring

1st - youngsters with a migrant background (either they and/or their parents) and Roma youngsters experience a set of obstacles derived from the social imaginary that is still charged with racist stereotypes and negative connotations (especially in times of economic crisis when there is a competition between local and migrant workers to access the labour market); the same with the Roma community.

2nd - their scarce socialization with other local youngsters and their difficulties to participate in and/or to enjoy the leisure time activities that local youngsters organize, mainly due to the linguistic issue (they don't speak Spanish)

3rd – lack of economic resources limits very much how they socialize and where, therefore a low level of participation in leisure time activities most of which require economic exchange, these youngsters stay at home (often a shared supervised apartment) and/or visit other youngsters at their homes

Feedback & recommendation received from mentors

1st: Jucivol has constituted an excellent tool in raising awareness on the possibilities of volunteering open to young migrants

2nd: the JUCiVol approach might be a way to develop a more dynamic system for the validation/recognition of competences acquired through formal and non-formal education

3rd : Professionals liked the tool and recognized its value towards motivating youngsters in risk of social exclusion towards volunteering.

4th Professionals mentioned the relevance of including the framework of civic competences in the tool because it helps to understand dimensions of belonging

5th: They also were positive about the four step approach, especially the reflexive process that involves the tool

6th: Professionals were attracted to participate in Jucivol because it gives these youngsters the possibility of building their own Volunteering Action Plan based upon what they know/like doing and upon the competences they want to improve

General conclusion after testing the mentoring in the 5 countries



Context of the testing

- Diversity of the national /institutional contexts- knowledge of Volunteering, Competence approach and non-formal & informal learning
- Diversity of the profiles of professionals: professional trainers, social workers trained to support youngsters "at risk", teachers in school or Higher education...

Methods, methodology or tools used during the testing of the JuCiVol

Taking into account the diversity of the professional profiles of the mentors/tutors who have tested the mentoring, the variety of the methodological approaches and methods is high but it seems that the following approaches were the most relevant: collaborative process, horizontal process, peer to peer approach, brainstorming, work in small groups, actions on the ground and/or very precise action plan designed together with youngsters during the mentoring provided by professionals

Main difficulties faced by the learners involved by mentors during the testing among youngsters "at risk"

- 1st lack of time as looking for a job, training or "paid" activity is the main expectation / need as underlined by many professionals working with youngsters "at risk" or with a NEET profile
- 2nd uncertainty linked to their social & economic status ("national" youngsters with a NEET profile) and/or administrative status (undocumented migrants for those who have just arrived)
- 3rd lack of self-confidence linked to their uncertain social, economic or administrative status
- 4th- prejudices and/or discriminations youngsters may have been faced to

- 1st testing the mentoring together with youngsters is a main condition for understanding
- 2nd being aware of the social, cultural, economic or administrative issues faced by their learners (youngsters "at risk")
- 3rd adapting the mentoring (and as well training) according to both the profiles of the youngsters and their "realistic" expectations
- 4th being as practical and pragmatic as possible especially with "possible" and "manageable" action plans (option 1- best possible one, option 2- possible in a near future, option 3- achievable after having overcome different milestones...)

B - Glossary

Assessment - either the process of appraising knowledge, know how, skills and/or competences of an individual against pre-defined criteria – typically followed by validation or certification or total range of methods used to evaluate learners' achievements (CEDEFOP 2002)

Assessment of competences- sum of methods and processes used to evaluate the attainments (knowledge, know-how and/or competences) of an individual, and typically leading to certification (evaluation is used for assessing training methods or providers)- CEDEFOP

Certification of competences - process of formally validating knowledge, know-how and/or competences acquired by an individual following a standardised assessment procedure. Certificate results in the issuing of certificates or diplomas by an accredited awarding body- CEDEFOP

Competence - Proven and demonstrated ability to apply knowledge, know-how and associated knowledge in a usual and/or changing work situation- CEDEFOP

Formal education- education acquired at school or in any official educative Institution with an official curriculum and system of inspection of educational institutions by external bodies (Huber & Reynolds, 2014)

Informal education - education acquired with exchange with friends, parents, colleagues and within actions undertaken alone. Informal learning continues throughout life (lifelong learning) and adults are more likely to take responsibility for their own learning by seeking new experiences and interactions with people (Huber & Reynolds, 2014)

Non formal education- activities which focus on the attitudes, knowledge and understanding, skills and actions. The planning is governed by pedagogical traditions which are both general and specific (Huber & Reynolds, 2014)

Formal learning- learning typically provided by an education or training institution structured (in terms of learning objectives, learning time or learning support) and leading to certification. Formal learning is intentional from the learner's perspective (Cedefop, 2002).-

Informal learning- learning resulting from daily life activities related to work, family or leisure. It is not structured (in terms of learning objectives, learning time or learning support) and does not lead to certification. Informal learning may be intentional or non-intentional (or incidental/random) (CEDEFOP 2002)

Non formal learning- learning which is embedded in planned activities that are n explicitly designated as learning, but which contain an important learning element (something described as semi-structured learning). It is intentional from the learne perspective. Non formal learning does not lead to certification- CEDEFOP

Learning outcome- All learning activity undertaken throughout life, with the air of improving knowledge, skills and competences within a personal, civic, social and/or employment-related perspective (CEDEFOP 2002)

Lifelong learning- All learning activity undertaken throughout life, with the aim c improving knowledge, skills and competences within a personal, civic, social and/ employment-related perspective (CEDEFOP 2002)

Mentoring – guidance and support provided to a new entrant (ie someone joining the institution/organization) or to someone as a part of professional development a support, by an experienced person who acts as a role model, coach or confidante (CEDEFOP, 2008)

Mentor- a person who is experienced, qualified and knowledgeable in a professional field relevant to the mentee, who offers guidance and support (CEDEFOP, 2008)

Validation of informal/non formal learning- the process of assessing and recognising a wide range of skills and competences which people develop through their lives and in different contexts, for example through education, work and leisure activities- CEDEFOP

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Valuing learning - the process of recognising participation in and outcomes of (formal, non-formal, informal) learning, so as to raise awareness of its intrinsic worth and to reward learning- CEDEFOP



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D - Key EU tools and strategies & European projects

- 1- Europass- A document to present your skills and qualifications effectively and clearly: Create your CV (+ cover letter) online ; Update your CV (PDF+XML) online ; Template and instructions : Examples further information- <u>https://europass.cedefop.europa.eu/documents/curriculum-vitae</u>
- 2- Youthpass- Participants of approved projects of Erasmus+ Youth in Action and of the Youth in Action programmes have the right to receive recognition for their participation and learning in the projects. The Youthpass Certificate is the instrument which has been developed for this purpose. Depending on the type of the project this role can be taken by a group leader, coach, mentor, trainer, etc.. further information- <u>https://www.youthpass.eu/en/Youthpass/</u>

3- European projects relevant for the JuCiVol

- **3.1 Success at school through Volunteering SAS** (Comenius, 2012-2014); initiated by iriv conseil together with the University of Northampton in 6 EU countries): Volunteering approach as an alternative pedagogical approach to struggle against Early School Living (ESL) with training sessions for youngsters 14-20 years who might be faced to difficulties at school to re-engage with school further information on: www.successatchool.eu
- **3.2 The Schola project (2016-2018)-** initiated by iriv Conseil together with the Collège Blaise Pascal (Massy, Essonne) is 6 EU countries. It aims at ; equipping educators/youth workers with all competences and skills needed to deliver high quality services and address increasingly diverse needs e.g those posed by multicultural societies. further information on: <u>http://www.schola-erasmus.eu/</u>
- 3.3 BUONE PRATICHE DI RICONOSCIMENTO E VALIDAZIONE DELLE COMPETENZE NEL VOLONTARIATO ITALIANO (Italy)- a series of good practices in Italy to evaluate competencies and skills gained through volunteering experiences- an overview of competencies and learning in various contexts such as formal, informal and non-formal learning with a full list of projects and tools to evaluate competencies
- **3.4 CESVOT SKILLS OF VOLUNTEERING (Italy):** a model of analysis of the training needs of Daniel Boggiani 2011 Research on volunteering, with passages on skills.- .http://www.cesvot.it/repository/cont_schedemm/6721_documento.pdf
- 3.5 Le z drugimi smo-SI (<u>https://lezdrugimismo.si/</u>) Slovenian project implemented by ZRC SAZU, focused on migrations and volunteering

Any other projects implemented in the social, educative or professional sectors and which promote the civic and social involvement of youngsters through a voluntary experience or to enhance the competence approach among youngsters with a focus on key competences may be added.

E- Professional profiles of the team as example of mentors for the JUCIVOL



UNIVERSIDAD

DE BURGOS dr Monica Ibanez among the University of Burgos (UBU) holds a PhD in Anthropology (1999) at the University of Chicago and is currently professor of Sociology where she is the head of the department of Sociology. Her research focuses on the construction of social imaginaries and the ways in which these constructions affect the everyday life of a given social group. She has published several articles on these topics. She is a member of several international associations, such as ISA, ECPR, and IMISCOE among others and she has been peer reviewer of several academic publications.



iriv Conseil – dr Bénédicte HALBA (PhD in Economics, University Paris I Pantheon Sorbonne- 1997) is the founding president of the Institute for Research and Information on Volunteering (iriv) which celebrates its 20th birthday (1997-2017) and director of iriv Conseil. She has been a lecturer at the University since 2000 in Europe (France, Austria, UK) nad has published several books and articles on Volunteering and Lifelong learning. The pioneer project she initiated in 2003 in 7 EU countries- Assessing a Voluntary experience (VAEB) was awarded for excellent practice in Helsinki in 2006.



KYNPOY Loucas Antoniou holds a PhD degree in Sociology from the Department of Sociological Studies at the University of Sheffield, a MA degree in Applied Sociology from the University of Indianapolis & a Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences from Cyprus College. He has an expertise on research methodology and on evaluating processes. He initiated & participated in research & education programmes as an expert evaluator



Dr Andrea Canderella, trainer for adults and for professionals supporting youngsters and vulnerable publics



dr Marjeta Research Assistant at the Institute of Ethnomusicology of the Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU) with a PhD in intercultural studies for which she was awarded by the Slovenian Slavic Society. Dr. Katarina Šrimpf graduated from the Department of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Ljubljana's Faculty of Arts

Further information on the team : <u>www.JuCiVol.eu</u>



This mentoring for educators has been implemented for the

- First framework designed by iriv conseil June-August 2017
- Framework enriched/discussed with the team & updated- September- October 2017
- Framework translated in the 5 languages- November 2017
- Testing among tutors in the 5 countries December 2017- July 2018
- Feedbacks collected and included by iriv conseil November 2018

The first users of the mentoring are professionals – educators & teachers supporting youngters "at rick" in their social and professional inclusion

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