



Overview on The SIDU 2012

Balkans today, new perspectives, new challenges !
24th/30th August 2012 FOJNICA – BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Preparation

The 21st SIDU (Seminar for Intercultural Dialogue and Understanding) took place in Fojnica, Bosnia and Herzegovina from August the 24th to August the 30th 2012.

This SIDU was organized by HCA France and ORC Tuzla.

We appealed at the end of July for participation to the SIDU. Participants had to apply before the 3th August.

ORC Tuzla made the selection of people from the region and HCA France made the selection for other participants. The seminar took place in Aquareumal in Fojnica, an ideal place for this kind of seminar.



Bojan Stančević, *Transparency International*

Process

During one week 50 participants and lecturers from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia, Montenegro, Albania, Turkey, Georgia, Armenia and France were sharing their knowledge and experiences. Around 30 people were from the region (Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina) and few participants came from Albania (3), Armenia (1), Turkey (1) and Georgia (1).



Iris Beleraj and Eduart O. Qatja, two participants from Albania

Lecturers were from Serbia, Macedonia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France and Israel.

Sadly our only participant from Kosovo, (the youngest selected participants) did not success to get access to the bosnian territory: she was travelling with her father because she is minor (16 years old) and with only her birth certificate. She could not cross the border with this single document and has been obliged to turn back to Kosovo.

Various topics were discussed during the SIDU

Such as...

The situation of Bosnia and Herzegovina today with **Vehid Sehic** from Gradjana Tuzla (www.forumtz.com) and **Miralem Tursinovic** from ORC Tuzla (www.omladina-bih.net/orctuzla.htm).

Bernard Dreano from HCA France (www.reseau-ipam.org/spip.php?page=rubrique&id_rubrique=10/) introduced to the participants the World Social Forum process. During the week Bernard Dreano also made several presentation about : relations between European Union and Balkans, the Greek crisis and the Arab spring.



Miralem Tursinovic, ORC/HCA Tuzla

Andrea Milat and **Jelena Ostojic**, member of the organizing committee of the Subversive Forum in Zagreb (www.subversivefestival.com) made a presentation of this Forum.

Eros Sana, lawyer and from HCA France made two presentations about migrations and European Union policies, and about the topic of climate change. Minority Rights, were introduced by **Stefan Manevski** from Center for Intercultural Dialogue of Kumanovo (www.cid.mk).



Stefan Manevski *Center of Intercultural Dialogue of Kumanovo*

Sharon Weill, lawyer in International human rights law and member of HCA France and

Ivan Jovanovic from OSCE Belgrade discussed with us about International Justice, impunity and reparation.

Goran Bubalo, from Mreza za izgradnju mira (www.mreza-mira.net) who works in Sarajevo introduced us the REKOM initiative. After this presentation we exchange about the futures mobilizations in the region. At the end of the week we created an agenda concerning the future mobilizations in the region :

Every presentation has aroused reactions among participants and created interesting discussions.

In the middle of the week the participants worked on different topics in groups. The organizers choose five topics according to the subjects on which the young participants work in their own country.

Five groups prepared five presentation about : “Youth”, “Minority Rights”, “Human Rights”, “Economic corruption” and the “Roma question”.

The creation of a « social-cultural committee » among participants at the beginning of the week was really good for the group autonomy and created initiative and proposals from participants. That was good for the group autonomy and the smooth running of the SIDU.

The creation of a redaction committee permit the edition of a daily newsletter with a resume of the day, a short interview of some participants and a presentation via a portfolio of each participant.

The good process of SIDU is due to the place which was a perfect one for this kind of seminar, and to the selection of participants that ensured to have dynamic sessions with a reactive group and to have interesting debates. The selection of participants created a really good group with reacting people and made this training really interesting and dynamic.



According to the evaluation of the participants the only thing that missed during the SIDU, was a lack of working group. Some of them wished to have more interactive work session.

Some evening session could be organized differently. Some were really good. Almost everybody enjoyed the movie « Parade » a movie telling about Gay Pride held in Belgrade in 2010. The intercultural evening was a little bit too long, it should have been better organized, « framed ».

Some of our participants speak

"I learned more about work in many part of world to make good changes and work for better global society. I have got more information of organization minority in Europe. I can implement some ideas in local level and make more partnerships project in our region. Many participants presented their organizations and work and that give hope that is possible to work better and more effective in our country."

Ernada Avdibegovic, Bosnia and Herzegovina



„From now I'm going to be more active and fight for that, for better future, with my friends as well. I learned a lot of things about others countries and minorities in them. I'm young and I can share what I learned and my experience with my friends and other young people give them some will to make changes and eliminate prejudices."

Sejla Arfadzan, Bosnia and Herzegovina

"SIDU was very informative, with each session providing information about different challenges we have in our countries. What I think we should reproduce is the education and awareness-raising, which I think we leave out, and thus people are not really aware of the magnitude of their rights as humans."

Vardine Grigoryan, Armenia

"First of all, it brought me new friendships with people from different parts of the region which made me share ideas and different opinions about conflicts and problems that surround us."

Nela Dojcinovic, Bosnia and Herzegovina

"I realized that we, the young generation must be the ones who will change the situation in the Balkans, because we aren't deeply passionate and our prejudices aren't too deep. Beside that I realize that we all in our countries have the similar problem and we can share ideas and create a network and to collaborate in fixing similar problems. We can change just one person and we will create a chain of changes."

Andjela Pavlovic, Serbia

"First of all SIDU gives us a look of foreign experiences like a map of problems and actions in other countries. Secondly, it helps us to link our analyses to the other so we can have a global analysis."

Maia Graziani, Corsica