

Youth Association DRONI



ახალგაზრდული ასოციაცია "დრონი"

# Human Rights and life stories in IDP settlements in Georgia

*A multimedia research in European  
Voluntary Service*

Tbilisi, 5<sup>th</sup> July 2012





## The YOUTH IN ACTION Programme

- Promoted by EU Commission
- Target group: young people aged between 13 and 30
- Aims: promoting dialogue, mutual tolerance, intercultural awareness and solidarity within and beyond the borders of the European Union, breaking down prejudices and stereotypes and building up societies based on common understanding and respect.
- It has got **5 operative actions**



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## EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE (EVS)

- Is a “learning service” open to all young people aged 18 to 30 (in exceptional cases from 16 years old)
- Period: from 2 weeks to 12 months, individually or in a group, abroad
- Aims: to give the opportunity to young people to experience life in a foreign country, by living and working there
- General idea: to improve solidarity, mutual understanding and tolerance among young people in order to strengthen social cohesion with the promotion of active citizenship for youth
- To realize an EVS project is fundamental to create a partnership among three key-actors: Sending Organisation, Hosting Organisation and volunteer



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### **Sending Organisation (SO)**

- Volunteers are sent by an organisation from their own Country;
- This organisation supports them to find a placement in the destination Country;
- Applies to get the funds for the project;
- Keeps contacts with the volunteers;
- Follows the evolution of the activities and of the experience

### **Hosting Organisation (HO)**

- Hosts the volunteer
- Provide a placement and tasks within or outside its own structure
- Responsible for the arrangements of volunteer (accommodation, local transportation, food)
- Responsible to appoint one mentor and one local coordinator



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## Project background

- **Title:** *“Human Rights and life stories in IDP settlements in Georgia”*
- **Period:** November 2011 - July 2012
- **General aim:** promotion of human rights of Internally Displaced People (IDPs) now living in different settlements in Georgia (Tbilisi Sea, Tserovani, Gori, Zugdidi)
- **Target group:** 40 Internally Displaced People (IDP) divided for age, gender, nationality, venue

## Partners

- DRONI is active in Georgia to develop educational initiatives in the field of civil society, conflict resolution, human rights and peace-building.
- Giovani per l'Europa is a youth association located in Calabria (Southern Italy). It supports young people's mobility and different social, educational and cultural initiatives



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## Specific objectives

- to write a ‘book-dossier’ with life stories of IDP in Georgia;
- to develop means of information, dissemination, promotion and awareness about Human Rights;
- to promote an active role of IDP, particularly young people living in IDP settlements;
- to promote conflict resolution through intercultural dialogue and sharing of common experiences;
- to increase participation, awareness and civic activism in the local community;
- to facilitate the creation of partnerships for common actions between Institutions and civil society;
- to give visibility to the “Youth in Action” Programme in Georgia and in Italy



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## Activities

- creation of database of contacts;
- meetings, networking and partnerships with international, national, local Institutions, organizations, schools, etc.;
- realization of interviews in the settlements and publication of a brochure;
- realization of a short movie-documentary;
- realization of a photo-exhibition;
- organization of a final event in Georgia to spread the results of work realized;
- publication and dissemination of the results in Italy;
- involvement of beneficiaries in voluntary activities and in production of documents;
- opening of a specific session in Droni for future actions of advocacy, lobbying and promotion of Human Rights of Youth IDP



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## Main methods and final products

- The questionnaire: 20 questions, face to face 30' interviews with qualitative analysis of the sources and focus groups for participative approach. The collected data will be issued in a book.
- The documentary: aims to give a voice to people forcibly displaced. The narration is a way to connect people of different age, gender and nationality that live in a common space in order to express their memories, emotions, opinions and ideas.
- The photo exhibition: the photo method was used as an analytical instrument aimed at documenting a life through a single snapshot, connecting the individual past, present and future





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## Outcomes

- increased the promotion and protection of IDP human rights;
- encouraged the promotion of intercultural dialogue;
- enhanced the socialization and sharing of common experiences;
- facilitated the involvement of people in events and activities of sensitization;
- planned a specific session ‘Youth IDPs’ in Droni for advocacy, lobbying, social inclusion, education and protection of human rights;
- several IDP directly involved in the initiative as volunteers, some of them students from Universities



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## Conclusions

### Critical elements:

- a) the non-formal approach has in a way limited the scientific data analysis;
- b) voluntary team work: time, money, technical skills, organization...;
- c) language and intercultural difficulties which delayed the start of the initiative;

### Positive elements:

- a) inclusion of professionals who volunteered for the initiative;
- b) concrete activities have been started in the IDP settlements;
- c) good final products obtained compared with the (very..) little money spent;



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## Proposed follow-up

- further implementation of these and more initiatives with the involvement of IDP
- new local and international volunteers to be involved in these initiatives
- specific session ‘Youth IDP’ to be opened in in DRONI for advocacy, lobbying, social inclusion, education and protection of human rights;
- multiply effect with new partnerships between Italy and Georgia
- dissemination of the results and visibility of the partners and of the initiative



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## Quotation by a volunteer:

*“... I am IDP myself and it was a pleasure to work for this project. I am really proud to have given my little contribution in the activities. I really believe in a brighter future for this people and I think that until people takes care of IDP problems we have a chance to stabilize the situation and make a difference”* (Tamuna - student and local team translator)



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- Grazie, thank you,

