

THE UNSUNG HERO DIALOGUES

PROMOTING SOLIDARITY AND DIVERSITY THROUGH
AWARENESS AND POLICY REFORM

Call for Participants



Autumn School

26.10. – 02.11.2020

Mühlhausen, Germany

Call for Participants – Autumn School 2020

October 26th – November 2nd 2020 at AntoniQ, Mühlhausen, Germany

The project «The Unsung Hero Dialogues – Promoting Solidarity and Diversity through Awareness and Policy Reform» aims to increase awareness among the European public of the importance of civic engagement in social and political discourse, as well as to increase the competence of NGOs, to do so.

To achieve these **objectives**, the project focuses on:

- 1) increasing attention on the economically unstable position of activists working in small-sized NGOs;
- 2) empowering activists to advocate for their rights through collective action by creating local and international networks among small freelancers, volunteers and NGOs within Europe as well as building direct dialogues with policy makers;
- 3) increasing awareness of the importance of civil society by making an international campaign promoting the importance of civic education to a wider public.

The overall project consists of 46 activities, including the [European Survey about Work in Civil Society Organizations](#) (which we kindly ask you fill out if you haven't yet), the **Autumn School**, as well as 7 local events in each of the partnership countries. More information about the project you can read [here](#).

The Autumn School

During the Autumn School, 50 participants from the EU 28 will work together to develop the competences and strategies how to better promote the [financial] value of civil society and civic education in Europe and their local communities. The Autumn School will consist of **two phases**, the first focusing on the background and methods for promoting Civil Society/Civic Education, and the second on developing strategies and materials to specifically target a) the policy level and b) the broader public. It will be conducted by an experienced team of project staff and facilitators.

You can find the preliminary schedule of the Autumn School here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aQsSAC0zBJnm5G310xZYsmf99IL_XXTJ/view?usp=sharing

The event will take place in the AntoniQ youth hostel in the town of Mühlhausen in the central German state Thuringia. It is situated in a former medieval hospital with structures dating back 800 years. CGE Erfurt e.V. has cooperated with AntoniQ before and has had great experiences there.

You can find more information about the venue [here](#).



The Organizers

Coordinated by [CULTURE GOES EUROPE – Soziokulturelle Initiative Erfurt e.V.](#), the project consortium consists of Democracy and Human Rights Education in Europe (DARE) Network, [Jaan Tõnisson Institute](#) (Estonia), [LaFenice](#) (Italy), the [Intercultural Institute Timisoara](#) (Romania), [United Societies of Balkans](#) (Greece) and [UMAR – Women’s Alternative- and Response Union](#) (Portugal). Each of the partners has years of experience in their fields and will contribute their unique traits and experiences to the Autumn School, events, and project in general.

The Participants

While the Autumn School is open to the general public, we are especially welcoming applications from participants who fulfill the following criteria:

- 18 years or older
- Living in or citizen of a EU 28 (incl. UK) country
- Proven interest or professional background in youth work, non-formal education, labor rights, advocacy/lobbying
- Proven interest or professional background in civil society, civic education (EDC/HRE), or the social sciences
- Full professional command of English as a working language on complex issues

Please note: Given the complexity of the topic and aim of the Autumn School to operationalize the project’s survey and prepare both the policy- and general outreach campaigns of the project, the Autumn School is mainly aimed at *advanced participants with personal and professional skills and experiences* that enable them to actively contribute to the group and work over the course of the event.

How to Apply

Please fill out the following application form, upon selection you will be contacted by one of the partner organizations.

<https://forms.gle/rY42ZcvDUuq9aoqL9>

The application will be open until **October 9th**. Successful participants will be informed no later than October 12th, 2020.

Costs

Food and accommodation during the Autumn School are covered by the project organisers, travel costs will be reimbursed based on the distance travelled (Erasmus+ rates) for the after the event by the respective sending organisation.

The participation fee of the event is 25€.

If you have questions about the Autumn School, “The Unsung Hero Dialogues” in general or the application procedure, please send us and email via uhd@cge-erfurt.org.

Regarding COVID-19

The organizers are bearing responsibility to ensure safe and hygienic conditions during the event. Therefore, every participant and trainer must have their own face masks for the entire duration of the event. The organisers will provide additional masks (if needed) as well as disinfectants in every seminar room and the dining room. We will allocate a maximum of 2 people in one room if they are from different households. During the sessions, the participants will be required to keep 1,5 meters distance where possible, and it will be mandatory to wear masks if the distance is hard to keep. In case any of the participants or the team show symptoms of the infection, they will be isolated with further testing for the virus.

Please note: According to German regulations (as of 28.09.2020), anyone traveling from abroad should follow specific safety measures. This includes, that everyone should get a COVID-19 test at the airport upon arrival (free of charge in Germany). Travelers coming from a Risk Area ([list here](#)) are obliged to take a test at the airport (we also recommend taking a test within 2 days of the journey) and strictly follow the steps outlined in the regulations for people coming to Germany from a Risk Area. You find the details of this and all the FAQs in English [here](#).

We ask any accepted participant to confirm whether or not they come from/travel through a Risk Area and familiarize themselves with the protective procedures during international travel to and from Germany, get tested for Covid19 by 23.10.2020, and provide the result of the test to the Autumn School upon request.

Kind regards,
CGE Erfurt e.V.