

Partners from United Kingdom, Poland, Latvia, France, Italy and Portugal continue to work on Senior volunteering best practices and developing training programme for Individuals and organisations on how to develop voluntary work for seniors. During this summer, we have learned a lot from each other – with two Joint staff exchanges and a Training for Trainers.

In June 2018 partners from the United Kingdom and Portugal went to visit colleagues in Latvia, and Polish organization “The Federation of Social Organizations of Warmia-Mazury Region FOSa” hosted partners from France and Italy. During the Joint staff exchanges they discussed the project “Local and International Active Seniors” activities and how delivery will be achieved in each of country. There was also an opportunity to look at the work of the host organization, in the field of volunteering and working with seniors.



JOINT STAFF EXCHANGES

Nicolas Condom, from Pistes Solidaires (France) said

„What we wanted to discover through the visit, was not only to see how our new partner FOSa works, as we did not have the opportunity to work with them before, but also discover their region, so we have a better idea of where our senior volunteers are going to spend two weeks in 2019. Seeing it directly will help us in preparing them, as well as choosing the participants who will fit the best in the context of action of FOSA. Visit was very interesting and allowed us to discover the variety of activities of FOSA. They are very active and have a lot of projects at the regional level, as well as many partners. We met some of them: day activities centers for seniors, food bank, schools specialised for disabled children or children in social difficulty, volunteering centers. This was very helpful to identify the way FOSA works, the places where our seniors could stay or the new projects that we could work on with them.”

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TRAINING FOR TRAINERS

In July 2018 in Rome for 7 days, 12 trainers from all partner countries of the project gathered together to discuss, check and test the training materials/program and make a common approach/methodology on how to implement training program about voluntary work for seniors and NGO's.



Liene Baranovska,

Gulbene Municipality Council (Latvia) said.

“Since me and my colleague Ruta have lead lessons for local seniors and organisations, we went to Rome to improve our knowledge. In cooperation with all the representatives of the other countries involved, we shared our previous experience, made recommendations and comments on the work done so far in the project. We participated and also managed our own activities which we will use in work with seniors and organisations. During the training course we were able to analyse the usefulness of the planned activities, as well as their relevance to the target groups. Training for trainers gave a clearer vision of what should be considered when we are planning volunteering for seniors and what is important when we enter already experienced and new organisations in the project activities. One of the key messages after the training - it is important to be aware of the co-operation of all volunteers, the usefulness of the work done for volunteers, organizations and the local community.”

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