



The reality of free movement for young European citizens migrating in times of crisis

<http://euonthemove.eu/>
<https://www.facebook.com/onthemoveProject/>

Evaluation report

Awareness Event

Amsterdam, the Netherlands, 21 September 2017

At the conclusion of the awareness event, the participants ('change agents') were requested to fill out an evaluation form. The outcome of this evaluation is presented below.

Overall number of participants: 26

Among them: 21 young people on the move:

5 of national authorities representatives:

Attendance list included as annex

The awareness event was organised in cooperation with the German volunteer organisation Aktion Sühnezeichen Friedensdienste (Action Reconciliation for Peace). This organisation sends out at least 15 volunteers aged between 18 and 30 to the Netherlands each year. The awareness event took place in the context of the arrival of a new group of volunteer and formed part of their introductory weeks in the Netherlands. It was attended by all the new volunteers and by their mentors. The mentors are people living in the Netherlands who are a contact point for the volunteers in the cities or towns where they live. They work at different institutions, from civil society to national authorities.

Against the background of the young people (the volunteers) just having arrived in the Netherlands, the project results were directly relevant to this entire group.

The event was organised as a combination of a presentation of the project results and a way to introduce the volunteers and mentors to each other, by having them discuss the project results and ways to settle in the Netherlands. The agenda was the following:

14.00 Preparation by volunteers



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15.30	Arrival of mentors
16.00	Welcome (by ASF)
16.30	Welcome (by association of ASF)
17.00	Presentation of research results of On the Move
18.00	Plenary discussion
18.30	Break
19.00	Discussion between mentors and volunteers
20.00	Plenary feedback
20.30	End and drinks

The presentation of the project results focused on the experiences of young people moving to the Netherlands, since this was the most relevant aspect of the project for the group of participants. Points that were addressed in the plenary discussion were:

- Recognition of the language issue in underlying other issues
- Questions about the views of authorities and recognition of the blockading attitude of some authorities
- Surprise at recognising oneself as a 'mobile EU citizen' and discussion of self-identification with EU citizens and freedom of movement as a right
- Different situations in mobility and privilege of being supported by a network of volunteers in the same country, as opposed to mobile citizens who do not have any connection to others
- Discussion of possibilities to build up social network in the Netherlands
- Reflection on significance of freedom of movement in times of intolerance and xenophobia

The awareness event took place before the manuals were finalised, so that the manuals could not be presented to the participants. However, they were sent by e-mail to the participants after the event.

The feedback forms were collected afterwards. They were filled in by 10 participants. Because the manuals had not been shared, they were instructed not to answer the questions on the manuals. The average score given to the different questions was:

Question	Scores given	Average score
Did the awareness event meet your expectations	4435325333	3.5
Is the "On the Move" project relevant to your work or life circumstances;	5445424433	3.8
Did this event raise your awareness regarding your rights as an EU citizen?	5445424533	3.9
Did this event raise your awareness on the possibilities offered by free movement?	4445423444	3.8
Did this event improve your knowledge on specific national barriers in legislation, practices, or	3435334343	3.5



perceptions?		
Did this event provide you with insights on possible ways to address barriers to free movement?	4445534444	4.1
Did this event provide chances for useful networking?	4445425533	3.9
Would you say that you gained greater insight in the common beliefs and stereotypes that act as obstacles to free movement?	4435434443	3.8
Are you going to use the outcomes/ material of this project in your line of work and/or research?	3445333434	3.6
Did you find the findings and conclusions of the research undertaken in the framework of the "On the Move" project useful?	3334335443	3.5
Was the duration of this event satisfactory?	3333445344	3.6
Would you be interested in future similar initiatives?	3434335344	3.6

There was a lot of interest in the discussion on how authorities would address the problems that were identified by the research. It was clearly seen as a problem that authorities were not always supportive of free movement and of the free movers. The participants were especially interested in ways to support the language learning of free movers and in ways to facilitate bureaucratic procedures at a national level.

Annexes:

Annex 1: Agenda

Annex 2: attendance list



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