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# CITIZEN JOURNALISTS ON TOUR

## International training on media and migration in Europe

20 – 28 Nov 2015 in Krzyżowa, Poland

### CALL FOR APPLICATION

#### Project Summary

- ✓ Date: 20 – 28 November 2015
- ✓ Venue: International Youth Education Centre in Krzyżowa, Poland
- ✓ Target group: 25 young journalists, activists, educators, youth workers and multipliers
- ✓ Topic: Media representation of asylum seekers, immigrants and refugees in Europe
- ✓ Countries: Estonia, Germany, Greece, Poland and Sweden

#### What is Citizen Journalists on Tour?

*Citizen Journalists on Tour* is a training course for talented young journalists from Estonia, Germany, Greece, Poland and Sweden on the issue of migration in Europe. The program consists of three parts:

In the first part, the participants are introduced to the topic and provided with a deeper *understanding* of the situation of asylum seekers and refugees in Europe. Special emphasis is put on the media discourse in the participating countries and the representation of affected people.

In the second part, the participants form small teams and embark upon a two-and-a-half-day *research* trip to such places as Berlin and Warsaw. They visit public institutions, meet with representatives of civil society, the media and the EU, conduct interviews and discuss the issue with various stakeholders.

In the third and last part, the participants come back together in Krzyżowa and process their collected material. They document their experiences in an online *publication* and develop a “manual for journalists” in which they give advice how to report about the issue in a critical and dignified way.

#### Why media and migration?

The number of people seeking refuge in Europe has risen dramatically in recent months with both national governments and the EU being unable to cope with the situation. As a result, too many asylum seekers and refugees are denied basic human rights. What is more, they are faced with an increasingly hostile and xenophobic atmosphere in some parts of Europe.



Media are part of this discourse shaping public opinion to a great extent. While some media provided a nuanced coverage others contribute to a one-sided, biased and negative image of migrants. It appears that social media, in particular, are often misused as a platform for agitation against immigrants.

Citizen Journalist on Tour addresses this problem by spreading examples of good practice that put the agency of the people at the heart of the coverage.

The training shall be guided by such questions as: How to report about asylum seekers and refugees in a way that respects their dignity? How is media coverage about asylum seekers and refugees in our home countries? What images are created? What language is used? Whose perspective is taken, and whose not? What are the ethical, political or practical limits when reporting about these topics?

### **What are the goals of the project?**

The goal of Citizen Journalists on Tour is to empower the participants to effectively counter negative representation of asylum seekers, immigrants and refugees in their local contexts. More specifically, the participants shall:

- acquire a deeper understanding of the migration issue in Europe
- learn to critically assess media coverage with regard to the representation of immigrants
- create a “manual for journalists” on how to treat the subject sympathetically

To achieve these goals a variety of methods will be applied, including individual and group work, peer-to-peer learning, team-building exercises, informal and self-experience based learning.

### **What is the target group?**

The target group are dedicated young people who are familiar with journalistic work (newspaper, radio/TV, social media, blogging, photography, documentary or other) and determined to take a stance against xenophobia in Europe. The selection criteria are:

- ✓ Age 18+
- ✓ Residency in Estonia, Germany, Greece, Poland or Sweden<sup>1</sup>
- ✓ First practical experience in journalism (e.g. freelance, studies, training etc.)
- ✓ Interest in migration, asylum policy and human rights
- ✓ Ability to understand, communicate and write in English
- ✓ Readiness to self-reflection and openness for new experiences
- ✓ Willingness to travel during the training

The organizers seek to have a diverse group as possible and invite people from all personal backgrounds to participate. The number of participants per country is five. The training will be conducted in English.

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<sup>1</sup> The nationality of the participants is irrelevant! Eligibility for participation is based on the place of residence.



### How about travel costs?

Travel costs to Krzyżowa (Poland) will be reimbursed according to the following (maximum) rates:

Estonia	Germany	Greece	Poland	Sweden
275 €	180 €	275 €	0 €	275 €

### What is the participation fee?

The participation fee involves full-board accommodation, program, and excursions. A reduction can be granted in substantiated cases.

Estonia	Germany	Greece	Poland	Sweden
80 €	180 €	40 €	80 €	180 €

### Who are the project partners?

Citizen Journalists on Tour is a cooperation of five non-governmental organizations from Estonia, Germany, Greece, Poland and Sweden. Together they seek to contribute to the emergence of a constructive, critical and democratic civil society.



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**Citizen Journalists on Tour**  
**20 – 28 November 2015, Krzyżowa, Poland**

**DRAFT PROGRAM**

<b>Friday, 20 November: Welcome!</b>	
Afternoon	Arrival
Evening	Welcome / program / group integration
<b>Saturday, 21 November: Introduction</b>	
Morning	Teambuilding / Getting to know Krzyżowa
Afternoon	Introduction: Asylum policy in Europe
<b>Sunday, 22 November: Workshop</b>	
Morning	Workshop: Media representation of refugees
Afternoon	Workshop: Media representation of refugees (cont.)
<b>Monday, 23 November: Preparation</b>	
Morning	Preparation of research trip
Afternoon	Departure to Berlin / Warsaw / Other
<b>Tuesday, 24 November: Research</b>	
Morning	Project visits / meeting of political and other representatives
Afternoon	Project visits / meeting of political and other representatives (cont.)
<b>Wednesday, 25 November: Return to Krzyżowa</b>	
Morning	Possibility of further research / free time
Afternoon	Return to Krzyżowa
<b>Thursday, 26 November: Publication I</b>	
Morning	Working on online publication and journalist manual
Afternoon	Working on online publication and journalist manual (cont.)
<b>Friday, 27 November: Publication II</b>	
Morning	Presentation of results: How to use the manual?
Afternoon	Reflection: What have we learned?
<b>Saturday, 28 November: Farewell!</b>	
Morning	Feedback and evaluation
After lunch	Departure