

## EDITORIAL



**W**e live in unprecedented trying times in which we are faced with the challenges and the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic which have greatly changed the world as we know it in many ways. However, the threat of the Covid-19 pandemic has reinforced the importance of the mandate of the Anna

Lindh Foundation in its aim to consolidate intercultural dialogue, fight xenophobia and polarization, and bridging the gap between cultures and societies in a time full of doubt, fear and emphasis on distancing.

Thus, we believe that the pressing challenges of our societies related to the high level of polarisation and phenomena of extremism, intolerance, existing prejudices and barriers which hamper peaceful co-existence in multi-cultural societies, as well as the spread of populist discourses, present themselves as an even stronger threat today. The fast spread of the Corona virus required governments and International organisations to take measures to limit physical contacts among people to contain the disease and some groups within society are already exploiting the current crisis to invoke more barriers to be created among our societies.

I would like to stress that by saying that we are all-people, civil societies, governments, international institutions, North-South-East and West of the

Mediterranean-going through an unprecedented crisis but it is also the first time in modern history that people, who are geographically very far away, can share at the emotional level what their peers are feeling. This gives us an opportunity to give new life to the Euro-Mediterranean partnership responding to the main needs of societies with the tools we have and insisting on the importance of intercultural dialogue and international cooperation as the key to respond to these needs.

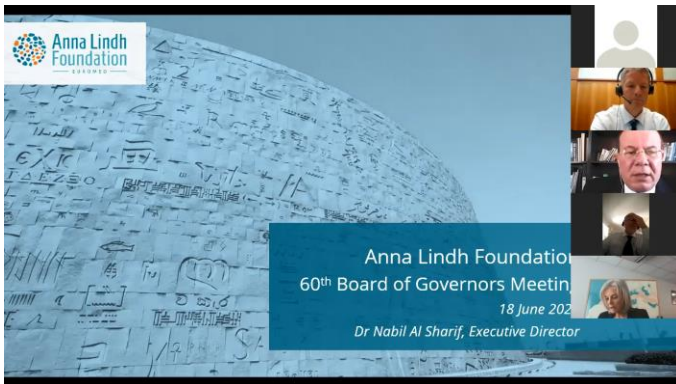
**Dr Nabil Al Sharif**  
Executive Director  
Anna Lindh Foundation

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## HEADQUARTERS IN ALEXANDRIA

### ANNA LINDH FOUNDATION 60<sup>th</sup> BOARD OF GOVERNORS VIRTUAL MEETING – 18 June 2020



ALF Virtual BoG Meeting

The Anna Lindh Foundation organized on the 18<sup>th</sup> of June its first virtual Board of Governors meeting during the current global health crisis of COVID-19 with its impact on humanity at the economic and social levels, imposing new measures and social changes and regulations with physical distances, mobility limitations, and closing border.

The meeting was attended by ALF Board Members representatives of the member countries of the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, the European Commission, the European External Action service, the President and Executive Director of the Anna Lindh Foundation, and staff members.



ALF Virtual BoG Meeting with BoG Representatives and ALF Staff

The Board of Governors discussed the current situation in the Region and its effect on the Foundation's work and the way forward, with an update on developments since last meeting which took place in Alexandria in November 2019, underlining on ALF continued activities of debates and exchanges between young people through Webinars as part of the Erasmus plus Virtual program, and continued virtual meetings with its

networks of 42 civil society organizations, with particular stress on the communication and information flow with the network.

The meeting also highlighted on ALF Celebration of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Barcelona Process and the engagement of identified Med Forum 2020 participants and partners in a regional activity in Barcelona, end of September, in conjunction with "A Sea of Words" literary contest award ceremony, and a virtual Marathon for Dialogue in the Euro Mediterranean Region for debate and enhancing collaboration.

The Board and the ALF Secretariat also tackled topics for decisions to be taken related to the Foundation's future Governance, Human Resources and the organizational structure planned to be enhanced through a consultancy process which will provide opinion and guidance on its HR policy and potential recruitments to reinforce its structure, and also debated on the registration of an ALF office in Brussels. □

## EU LIAISON AND PARTNERSHIPS

### THE FOUNDATION'S YOUNG MED VOICES AND EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT'S YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS TOGETHER IN A SERIES OF VIRTUAL DEBATES; "YOUTH AS DRIVERS OF CHANGE"- 23 April 2020



European Parliament  
Young Political  
Leaders Programme



Logos: Young Mediterranean Voices and Young Political Leaders

Based on successful past joint activities, the Anna Lindh Foundation is engaging Young Mediterranean Voices alumni together with the European Parliament Young Political Leaders in a series of virtual debates with High-level EU Representatives from April to June, 2020. This exchange will create a platform for constructive dialogue between decision-makers and youth, during the urgent times of COVID-19 crisis.

Through digital means, youth from different regions and backgrounds, and policy-makers will have the opportunity to jointly address critical foreign affairs policy discussions on cross-cutting themes in the framework of intercultural dialogue.

The activity aims to empower young voices to enhance a culture of public dialogue, shared public affairs and media discourses, and create a shared understanding with peers across the Mediterranean on how to address issues of common concern to their communities.

Ideas that emerge from the discussions will be formulated in a short-but-concise set of policy recommendations around the specific topic discussed. Based on the needs, thoughts, fears, expectations and aspirations of young people from the various communities, nationalities and population groups

The first debate in this series took place on 23 April 2020 with Olog Skoog, the EU Ambassador to the United Nations on “Peace, Security and position of Euro-Med.” Recommendations were subsequently included in the EU statement at the United Nations Security Council open debate on Youth, Peace and Security on 27 April 2020.

In these times of major health crisis, with global and local concerns, lock-down and social distancing, it is key to continue engaging with youth and virtually break the isolation in order to join forces and continue - in spite of the crisis - to be active drivers of change, no matter their nationality. In particular, and on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Barcelona process, the Anna Lindh Foundation is committed to promote youth-led dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean region in the framework of intercultural dialogue in these difficult times. □

### STRENGTHENING THE INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE IN THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN REGION: A VIRTUAL EXCHANGE WITH YOUNG PEOPLE AND POLICY-MAKERS – 21 February 2020, Brussels



*Virtual Exchange dialogue event*

On 21st February 2020, the Anna Lindh Foundation organised a Virtual Exchange dialogue event “Building

bridges between youth in the digital era: Pioneering Virtual Exchange” between young people, policy-makers and education stakeholders in Brussels.

Over 20 young leaders from Algeria, France, Belgium, Egypt, Libya and Italy, showcased the potential of the Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange project in an offline and online dialogue underlining the challenge of engaging hard-to-reach communities and opening up space for youth agency, not traditionally involved in regional and international programmes to join the broader movement for intercultural dialogue and action.

Scene-setters for the dialogue included: Ms. Antoaneta Angelova-Krasteva, Director for Innovation, International Cooperation and Sports, Directorate General for Education and Culture (DG EAC), Mr. Oliver Rentschler, Director for Interinstitutional Relations, Policy Coordination and Public Diplomacy at the European External Action Service (EEAS) and Mr. Kostis Giannidis, President of the Erasmus Student Network.

Ms. Angelova, highlighted: *“At the European Commission we believe in the potential of Erasmus Virtual Exchange for fostering democratic values, active citizenship, critical thinking and media literacy”*. Mr. Rentschler underlined the need of: *“Civil society and youth to be part of the political discussion”* and stressed the importance of Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange as: *“a great tool that offers a safe space for discussion and harnesses the power of new technologies”*.

Gerrard Quille, Head of the European Parliament Mediation and Dialogue Unit, one of the co-moderators, highlighted: *“It was a pleasure to work again with the Anna Lindh Foundation in such an innovative Virtual Town Hall debate. I always look for innovative ways to engage with the European Parliament’s Young Political Leaders alumni and I will be reporting back to the European Parliament in order to incorporate similar policy content and the use of innovative technologies and dialogue skills in our future activities”*.

The theme of the dialogue was framed by the centrality of the Mediterranean for the global policy agenda, as well as a unique laboratory for investing in youth-led intercultural dialogue across societies and regions. More particularly, the participants shared insights on new ways to exchange on external policies as well as on intercultural learning between youth and policy-makers in the Euro-Mediterranean region. □

## PRESENTATION OF THE PROJECT 'ERASMUS FOR ASSOCIATIONS' BY THE ANNA LINDH FOUNDATION AT THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT CULTURE COMMITTEE HEARING – 19 February 2020

On 19 February, the Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF) and its partners from the Summit of the Two Shores introduced the project Erasmus of Associations at the European Parliament Culture Committee hearing.

The aim of the project is to enable the development of inclusivity, creativity and cultural exchange in the context of the Southern neighborhood through the mobility of members of civil society organisations and of young people from all over the Euro-Mediterranean region. In particular, the proposal would promote intercultural learning and mutual exchange of skills through residency programmes within civil society, cultural, non-governmental and social entrepreneurship organisations as well as sport associations, and organisations working in non-formal education.



*Presentation of the Project Erasmus of Associations*

The Foundation asked for the European Parliament's support, in particular in the Culture Committee for its project 'Erasmus for Associations', with the objectives of:

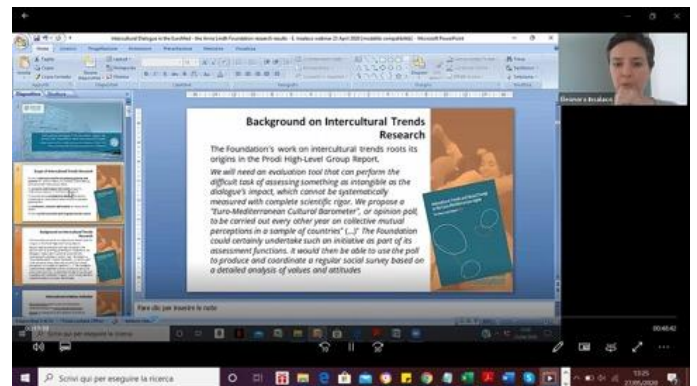
Developing and consolidating cultural cooperation through multi-directional mobility between the two shores of the Mediterranean, as well as among the countries of the Southern shore.

- Promoting sustainable development awareness as an essential instrument to strengthen social cohesion and to enhance the human capital of Mediterranean societies.
- Supporting youth on both sides of the Mediterranean, reinforcing civic engagement, participation and creativity.
- Fostering social development through a participative and inclusive approach to communication across cultural contexts.

- Improving the employability of young people through international networking and learning about the functioning of different work systems - mainly in the non-profit and associative sectors - in the countries of the Euro-Mediterranean region.
- Foster innovation, international cooperation schemes and social entrepreneurship in the civil society sector. □

## INTERCULTURAL TRENDS REPORT

### PRESENTING AND DISCUSSING THE INTERCULTURAL TRENDS REPORT – 23 April 2020



*Presentation – Intercultural Trends Report*

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April, Executive Director Dr Nabil Al-Sharif and Eleonora Insalaco, Head of Operations and Intercultural Research at the Anna Lindh Foundation, participated to a webinar of the Mediterranean University Union sub-network for Mobility and Intercultural dialogue. In his presentation, Dr Nabil Al-Sharif underlined the importance of establishing collaborations between universities and civil society organizations for the promotion of intercultural dialogue and invited the participating universities to join the Call #Covid19: EuroMed cooperation and dialogue must continue". Along the lines of the Executive Director, Eleonora Insalaco stated that in this historic moment, research is crucial for developing new ways to promote Intercultural dialogue and to measure its impact on societies in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

The ALF intercultural research work was also presented at the students of the Master course on Public and Cultural Diplomacy of the University of Siena on 7<sup>th</sup> of May. The University of Siena is piloting a module on Intercultural Trends in the EuroMed region based on the Anna Lindh Report and the contents developed for the online course. Participation to the module is compulsory and the delivery of the assignments will give students credits to obtain their final score. □

## OPEN ONLINE COURSE: EURO-MEDITERRANEAN INTERCULTURAL TRENDS – 12 May 2020



From the 12<sup>th</sup> of May until the 8<sup>th</sup> of June, the Anna Lindh Foundation launched the second edition of the Online course on Intercultural Trends in the Euro-Mediterranean region, developed together with The Mediterranean Universities Union. The course includes educational videos, virtual discussion forums, quizzes and reading material divided into four modules, originating in the Anna Lindh Intercultural Trends report. The four thematic modules of the course are: Representation of the Mediterranean and mutual interests; Values and mutual perceptions; Interaction across cultures; and Living in diversity.

The course received registrations from over 600 learners from the region and beyond and during the course, participants were offered the possibility to attend an Online Meetup session to exchange on the themes of the course and network through a virtual facilitated discussion. □

## FIRST INTERCULTURAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION VIRTUAL EXCHANGE – 15 April 2020



*First Intercultural Citizenship Education Virtual Exchange*

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of April the Anna Lindh Foundation organized and facilitated an Intercultural Citizenship Education Virtual Exchange. The Exchange brought together educators in the formal and non-formal sectors who participated to the Regional Training for Trainers on Intercultural Citizenship Education organised by the ALF in November 2019 in Nicosia, Cyprus.

The aim of the exchange was to offer educators a space to encourage discussion and reflection on how the current pandemic has affected the work of educators and to share ideas on how the pandemic's consequences on intercultural exchanges/dialogue can be minimized.

The majority of participants considered the crisis both an opportunity and a threat because it encourages everyone to be creative and to develop new ways to reach people through virtual exchanges. The debate developed around challenges that can be categorized into three main areas: diversity and mutual perceptions; mobility limitations undermining fundamental freedoms; rethinking of Intercultural Citizenship Education. A key point of the discussion was the sudden shift from face-to-face to remote learning shedding light on difficulties adjusting to virtual formats, reaching target groups due to unequal access to the internet among disadvantaged and marginalized groups, obtaining funds and developing online training and interactive sessions within an unpredictable timeframe for the current crisis. Nevertheless, almost all the educators concurred that virtual exchange can help sustaining intercultural education across the region and youth education and a powerful tool to counter the fueling of stereotypes in the EuroMed region. □

## SECOND EDUCATION VIRTUAL EXCHANGE - TRAINING ON THE ORGANIZATION OF VIRTUAL EXCHANGE SESSIONS AND ON VIRTUAL INTERCULTURAL CITIZENSHIP TRAINING ACTIVITIES – 12 May 2020



*Second Intercultural Citizenship Education Virtual Exchange*

Based on the needs expressed during the first Intercultural Citizenship Education Virtual Exchange, a second virtual meeting was organized on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May. The aim of this session was to explore how to design and deliver virtual exchanges, the features of different online platforms and how to design and deliver virtual intercultural citizenship education trainings.

The trainings were delivered by Aissam Benaissa, Online Debate Community Management & Virtual Exchange Capacity Building Expert in the Anna Lindh Foundation, and Lahcen Tighoula, Trainer in Morocco, who on 6 and 7 April organised a 2-day training on intercultural citizenship in Morocco, based on the activities and material published in the Anna Lindh Education Handbook on Intercultural Citizenship in the EuroMed region. A toolkit on the organization of the organization of virtual exchange activities and virtual intercultural citizenship trainings will be made available by the two trainers. □

## LAUNCH OF THE INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE RESOURCE CENTRE – 9 June 2020



In June 2020, the Anna Lindh Foundation launched the Intercultural Dialogue Resource Centre as the product of a long-term EuroMed mapping of resources and as a space to be regularly updated with a participatory approach. The Centre is developed to be the reference point for resources on intercultural dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean region to respond to the needs of journalists, civil society, researchers, students, policymakers and to the general public as a whole.

*“In addition to supporting actors who are already working with intercultural relations, we want to inspire people who are interested in the area, but would like to learn more. That is why I would encourage students and academics looking for resources to visit the centre”,* stated Eleonora Insalaco, Head of Operations and Intercultural Research at the Anna Lindh Foundation.

Resources uploaded in the Centre include Publications, Learning Activities, Audiovisual, Events, Resource People and Good Practices and are divided according to the following themes: Education, Media, Culture, Cities, Youth and Media.

At the time of its launch, the Centre contains information on more than 100 curated academic publications and the biographies and contact information for 100 experts. It also offers visitors a selection of journalistic articles, events, learning activities developed especially for civil society. The Centre also contains contact information and biographies for resource people and around 30 good practices presenting successful projects addressing a variety of challenges of our times.

*"In order to make the center dynamic, lively and interactive, we invite visitors to the centre to site to share with us all kinds of interesting material relating to intercultural affairs and encounters in the Euro-Mediterranean",* concluded Insalaco. □

## INTERCULTURAL TRENDS AND MEDIA PLATFORM

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of May, the Anna Lindh Foundation organized a Virtual Exchange as a follow-up to the First Intercultural Trends and Media Platform held in Amman. The exchange aimed to invite experts to discuss the impact of the current pandemic on their work, on mutual perceptions and cross-cultural reporting in the Euro-Mediterranean region and to share ideas on what could be done to minimize the negative consequences of the current crisis on intercultural exchanges/dialogue. Experts highlighted the shift in media focus during the pandemic to internal affairs and the low priority given to intercultural issues including those related to migration and refugees. Among the conclusions of the meeting, the idea of promoting culture as a means also to get out of the crisis also economically, and the proposal of organizing a virtual cultural tour of EuroMed cities was highlighted as a tool to facilitate cross-cultural encounters despite restrictions to travel in the Euro-Mediterranean region and to expose large audiences to the diversity and cultural heritage of the area. Furthermore, the need to continue investing in research on intercultural issues, to facilitate networking among journalists, academics and civil society and to shed focus on the gender dimension of the crisis. Finally, it was underlined the need to institutionalize the collaboration among institutions for a shared response to the current crisis. □

On 9 June the Anna Lindh Foundation organized the first Virtual meeting of the Intercultural Trends and Media Platform. The virtual meeting was organized to encourage discussion especially regarding the way media production and mutual perceptions in the Euro-Mediterranean region are changing as a result of COVID-19. Participants included, among others, Fabian Pianka representing the International Relations and Diversity department at Deutsche Welle, Nada Abdelsamad from the BBC Arabic and Dr. Ha`mida El Bour from the University of La Manouba. □

## PREPARATION OF THE 4TH EDITION OF THE ANNA LINDH REPORT



The ALF contracted Ipsos-Mori in January 2020 to carry out the fourth wave of the Intercultural Trends Survey in 13 selected countries of the region, namely Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritania, Morocco, Romani and Sweden. The Intercultural Trends Survey is at the core of the preparation of the fourth edition of the Intercultural Trends Report. Field work started in March, after 2 weeks suspension because of the outbreak of the pandemic, it was resumed on 13 April and it is expected to be finalized in June 2020. Further preparatory work includes the identification of civil society good practices in collaboration with the ALF Heads of Network to be included in the Report and identification of experts to lead the qualitative analysis and contextualisation of the data gathered.

*"For the coming Report on #Intercultural\_trends in the Euro-Mediterranean region, we have added new questions for the poll on hate speech, mechanisms to prevent it, environmental issues, impact of digitalization and migrant/host community relationships",* explains Eleonora Insalaco. □

## YOUNG MEDITERRANEAN VOICES

**VIRTUAL YOUTH-LED DIALOGUE LEADS TO  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL  
YOUTH, PEACE AND SECURITY RESOLUTION –  
23 APRIL 2020**



Zoom - YMV Virtual Dialogue

On 23 April 2020, the Anna Lindh Foundation and the EU Delegation for the United Nations, co-organised the first in a series of Virtual Dialogues, on Youth, Peace and Security (UNSCR 2250 2419), in collaboration with the European Parliament's Young Political Leaders (YPL) and EU-supported Programmes: Young Mediterranean Voices and Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange. The Virtual Dialogue surfaced young leader's views from 7 different countries on both sides of the Mediterranean. Their recommendations were integrated in the EU Statement to the Security Council on 27 April, 2020, linked to the Security Council Open Debate on *"Maintenance of international peace and security: Youth, Peace and Security"*.

The Virtual Dialogue provided the opportunity for young leaders to exchange their views with EU High-level Representatives on how to be advocates for direct solutions, as well as to unlock incentives in youth work. Madame Elisabeth Guigou, and Mr. Nabil Al-Sharif, President and Executive Director of the Anna Lindh Foundation (respectively), underlined the Foundation's support to empower youth as *"drivers of peace and mutual understanding"*.

Scene-setters for the dialogue included: H.E. Mr. Olof Skoog, Head of the European Union Delegation to the United Nations and the Deputy Permanent Representative for France to the UN, Ms Anne Gueguen. Mr. Olof called for *"international solidarity and intercultural dialogue to counter Coronavirus effects"* and expressed his will to *"support the Foundation's work in the Mediterranean towards a better understanding of the region, to fight growing mistrust and polarisation"*.

Young leaders highlighted their commitment to broadening their participation in the prevention and resolution of conflict, and underscored the necessity to incorporate their voices in bottom-up decision-making processes related to the Security Council's youth peace and security agenda.

"Young people are invited to fight war, but not to peace talks" said Hitham El Himmali from Libya, stressing UN's crucial role to inclusively engage youth in the peace-making process. Fatma Zahra from Morocco highlighted: "African peace initiatives are driven by youth who believe they are drivers not subjects. There remains a need to overcome structural barriers and intergenerational gaps". Ammon Morag, European Parliament's Young Political Leaders' alumni, underlined the need to invest in unexplored "digital spaces and platforms" to engage hard to reach communities of young people. □

Please see the EU statement:

[https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/78041/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-united-nations-security-council-open-debate-youth-peace-and-security\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/un-new-york/78041/eu-statement-%E2%80%93-united-nations-security-council-open-debate-youth-peace-and-security_en)

**THE FOUNDATION'S YOUNG MED VOICES AND  
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT'S YOUNG POLITICAL  
LEADERS TOGETHER IN A SERIES OF VIRTUAL  
DEBATES; "YOUTH AS DRIVERS OF CHANGE"**

**YOUNG  
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VOICES**  
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**European Parliament  
Young Political  
Leaders Programme**



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The activity aims to empower young voices to enhance a culture of public dialogue, shared public affairs and media discourses, and create a shared understanding with peers across the Mediterranean on how to address issues of common concern to their communities.

Ideas that emerge from the discussions will be formulated in a short-but-concise set of policy recommendations around the specific topic discussed. Based on the needs, thoughts, fears, expectations and aspirations of young people from the various communities, nationalities and population groups

The first debate in this series took place on 23 April 2020 with Olog Skoog, the EU Ambassador to the United Nations on “Peace, Security and position of Euro-Med.” Recommendations were subsequently included in the EU statement at the United Nations Security Council open debate on Youth, Peace and Security on 27 April 2020.

In these times of major health crisis, with global and local concerns, lock-down and social distancing, it is key to continue engaging with youth and virtually break the isolation in order to join forces and continue - in spite of the crisis - to be active drivers of change, no matter their nationality. In particular, and on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Barcelona process, the Anna Lindh Foundation is committed to promote youth-led dialogue in the Euro-Mediterranean region in the framework of intercultural dialogue in these difficult times. □

## YMV ONLINE DEBATES & TRAININGS IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC

*“When empowering young people is your biggest aim, helping them raise their voices and participate across one of the most challenging regions, COVID-19 outbreak cannot stop you from continuing to provide opportunities to young people. The aim is to further build their skills and resilience.*

*Since the forced suspension of face-to-face activities in March 2020, the Young Mediterranean Voices programme took on the challenge and went digital with some of its activities. The same spirit and objectives have been maintained; enhancing a culture of dialogue, shaping public policy and media discourses, and creating a shared understanding to address issues of common concern across communities.” British Council, Young Med Voices Project Implementer*

With Young Mediterranean Voices, swiftly shifting the arena of activities to cyberspace, we tapped into youth tech literacy, mastering digital tools & platforms. The shift was hailed & commended, by partners, facilitators, debaters and fresh intakes of the programme. As the programme made capital of youth tech aptitude, in order to explore prospects of

mitigating risks entailed by COVID-19, and also device new semantics of debates. Online sessions invited on board public participation, via streaming live on Facebook, levelling up engagement with diverse audiences and reaching out to extended networks regionally & globally. An experience that harnessed attentive skills and showcased excellence of remote organisation of events led by British Council.

In fact, YMV Master Facilitators (senior trainers of the programme) took the initiative to self-organise Regional and National Online Public Debates among other Facilitators across the 8 countries. Participants were enthusiastic to debate pressing and controversial issues related to unprecedented pandemic COVID-19. Fervent debates ranged from eager debaters calling for dissolution of WHO, and in Morocco they furiously argued for immediate release of prisoners amid rising death tolls & infection outbreaks. Whereas, in Jordan, youth led deliberate dispute with regards to revoke data protection of COVID-19 patients as a means to uphold societal security. Whereas Lebanese youth were concerned about local economic implications of pandemic and urgency of resorting to IMF as a means to resolve escalating financial crisis. They addressed perceptive yet critical outlook on UN SDG8.



Feedback from youth highlighted that taking controversial debates to virtual space was inherent to engage their fellows who haven't enrolled in any youth-led debate programmes. Facilitators acclaimed that YMV Online Debates granted youth an added-value & ownership to opportunities for them to strive for change & further advance policy change in their countries.

Furthermore, national debate trainings (NDT) were held in Algeria & Tunisia, where a total of 26 facilitators were trained creatively online. Master facilitators employed inventive modalities beyond rigidity of virtual space. NDT is a critical stage for debaters, as they graduate to become facilitators, with upgraded skills set normally transferred via in-person coaching & training. With the first validated intake of online facilitators, they are now ready to train fresh intakes of online

debaters, and support other intakes of adapting to YMV Online Debates. It has been an industrious season for YMV, blooming into packed vibrant events. Worth mentioning that high profile endorsement to our youth led activity was vibrant, with thanks to Her Majesty's Britannic Ambassador to Tunisia, Ms. Louise de Sousa and Mr. Robert Ness, Director of British Council Tunisia for joining regional debate & NDT respectively. □



**INSTITUTIONAL DIALOGUE** Regional and global allies for youth and dialogue

With YMV debaters geared up for high-level engagement, YMV has been holding talks and scoping for new partnerships with regional & global established institutions, with activities relating to intercultural dialogue and youth. Striving to create the opportunities for the voicing of youth perspectives into development agendas and policy leadership, YMV has been exploring collaborations that will enhance the process and simultaneously embark on a strategic continuation and evolution of YMV. The meaningful path thus far followed by ALF, with partners British Council, MEDAC, Club de Madrid, Soliyia, Friends of Europe and Search for Common Ground, in addition to our funders and ardent supporters, the EU, World Bank/CMI and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, has create a creative energy and potential that we aim to nurture further in 2021 and beyond.

Our youth has taken social media and virtual space by storm, with their inspiring perspectives and creativity, organically engaging key regional players around tech education and digital aspects of leadership, capacity building, and the articulation of policy recommendations, in these challenging times of isolation and physical distancing. This new modus operandi is the backbone of new dialogues with partners and collaborators, linked up with building fortified civil society network backing up bottom-top approach to resolving pressing issues of common interest to people of the Euromed. □

## ERASMUS+ VIRTUAL EXCHANGE

### THE 2ND EUROMED ONLINE DEBATE COMPETITION TOOK PLACE IN APRIL, 2020

The Anna Lindh Foundation organised in April, 2020, the second Euromed Online Debate Competition, in the framework of the European Commission's project Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange. Around 300 young people participated, from 16 countries.

The Competition showcased a unique methodology of virtual intercultural youth-led debates, used to acquire advocacy skills through debate training and exercise collaborative problem-solving. Young people increased their empathy and tolerance towards other cultures, whilst improving their critical thinking skills.

Education, democracy and current challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic are some of the issues that young people discussed during the Online Euro-Med Debate competition. 39 debates were organised over two weekends to tackle young people's concerns on pressing regional and international issues, followed by 10 post-debate dialogue sessions.

Teams were formed by 6 debaters and 1 team leader from the north and south of the Mediterranean. Burak from Germany, team leader of the competition's winning team, highlighted: *"Our team combined the experiences of people from 7 nationalities. We all learned from each other and enjoyed uniting our differences"*.

Teams presented evidence to validate their arguments for or against motions to draw out conclusions about key issues related to the current global crisis, human rights, women's rights, education, technology, healthcare and democracy amongst others. Topics were suggested by participants themselves. *"Tackling the Coronavirus crisis together in our debates relieved the fear and uncertainty we are facing. Together we learned more about how to manage this crisis."*, stated Hend, participant from Egypt.

The final debate took place on 25 April, 2020. Mixed teams from Egypt, Belgium, Libya and Italy discussed how power is distributed within the international system: Is a multipolar world better than a unipolar one? Madame Elisabeth Guigou, President of the Anna Lindh Foundation, joined the final debate to announce the winning team and deliver the final speech of the competition. The President stressed on the continuous commitment of the Foundation to invest further in the creation of online and offline spaces for youth skills building and advocacy, and thanked the 40 teams for their high commitment and their excellent performance. □

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE NEXT EUROMED ONLINE DEBATE COMPETITION: 22, 23, 29 & 30 AUGUST, 2020**  
[https://europa.eu/youth/erasmusvirtual/news/join-3rd-online-euro-med-debate-competition-coming-summer\\_en](https://europa.eu/youth/erasmusvirtual/news/join-3rd-online-euro-med-debate-competition-coming-summer_en) 

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

**“The most important time to discuss – and create a new solution for collaboration” (CSO Croatia)**

**“A radically different approach is now needed. This can only be achieved through engaging with those in the field as broadly as possible.” (CSO Ireland)**

**F**uture Possibilities – **RETHINK, RETOOL & REAFFIRM**  
**Survey results: The Impact of COVID-19 on Euro-Mediterranean Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)**

ALF launched a survey to get an initial overview of the CSO response mechanisms during COVID-19, and to gain new perspectives on how to strengthen intercultural dialogue and organisational resilience. In addition, the Foundation is paving the way for a structured dialogue with its CSOs Network and stakeholders in light of the crisis and the hybrid future.

The assessment of the ALF survey is based on qualitative and quantitative answers of 289 Anna Lindh Foundation CSO members, mostly non-governmental organisations from 41 Euro-Mediterranean countries (no reply from Latvia), 65% from North Mediterranean and 35% from South Mediterranean CSOs. The survey ran for four weeks, April to May 2020.

### Key takeaways:

- CSOs had the capacity to respond and adapt to the sudden disruption; however, they were restricted by limited resources.
- It is important to invest in innovation and digital technology capacity building in order to reinforce organisational resilience.
- Regional cooperation and dialogue are considered a necessity, not a choice, in order to move forward towards a sustainable future.
- Intercultural dialogue needs to follow an interdisciplinary approach.

### Challenges

Even though the pandemic has been used to innovate by making use of technology and online tools to communicate with partners and colleagues, the EuroMed CSOs expressed the following challenges:

### Exposing the Digital Divide

In line with other studies, the survey also reveals the divide between the technology “haves” and “have-nots” both within and between countries.

### SHRINKING RESOURCES

The survey clearly shows that mobility is an essential precondition for the functioning and development of organisations. The restriction on movement has led to the 59 % decrease in the following resources of the EuroMed CSOs: volunteers, visibility, training, outreach, physical space and networking opportunities. The biggest decrease is in outreach, physical space and volunteers.

### RECURRING FUNDING CHALLENGE

The organisations surveyed strongly stressed their concern that future aid budgets will decline, no funds will be available for priorities unrelated to the pandemic, already approved funds will be withdrawn or that refunds will be demanded if deadlines are not met.

### Opportunity to Rethink, Retool and Reaffirm

The survey outcome especially emphasizes the need to support the development of organisational resilience and innovation in preparation for uncertainties related to the pandemic. The three recommendations listed below will be further explored together with the ALF CSO network and stakeholders.

### HYBRID FUTURE

Strengthening the resilience of CSOs to manage current and future challenges needs digital age, e.g. by finding and learning to use suitable tools.

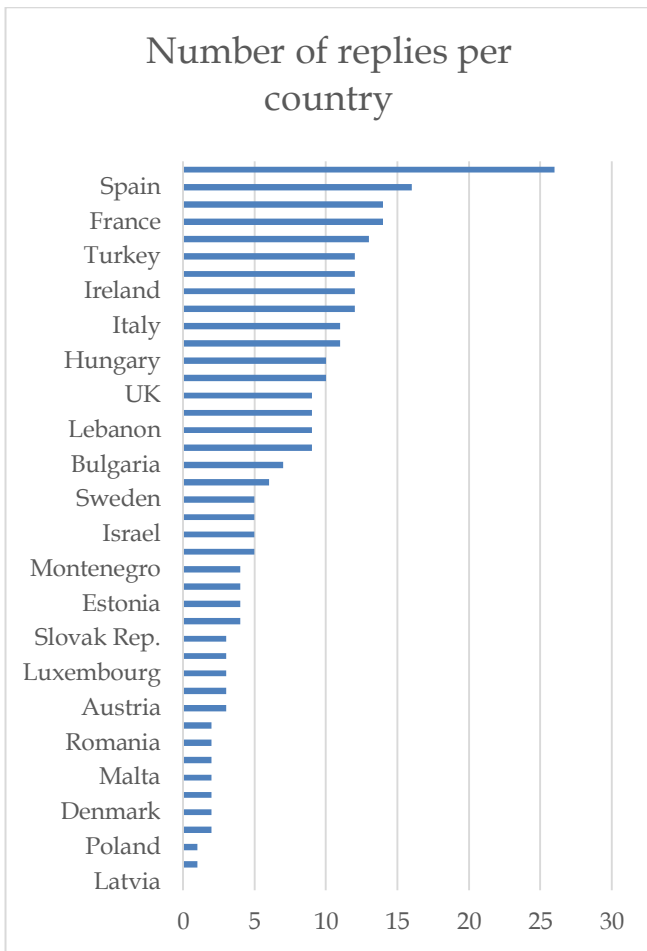
### LEVERAGING INNOVATION

Shifting to more localised work requires innovate approaches and factoring in new technologies when designing new projects and programmes.

### FLEXIBLE FUNDING MODELS

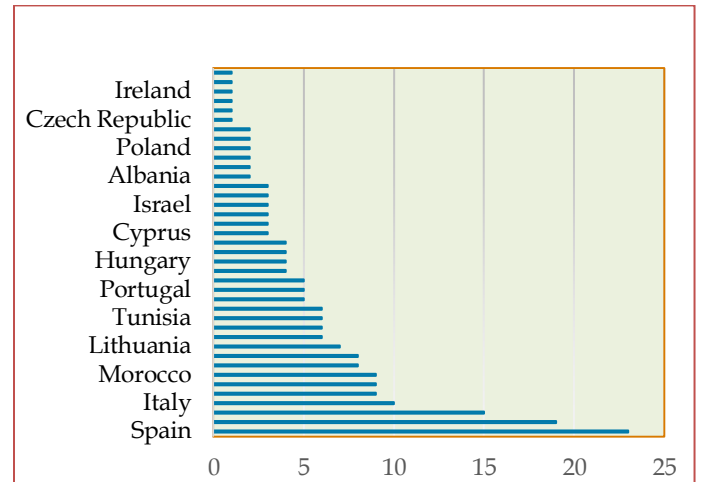
The need for strategic, alternative, and flexible funding models has been extensively discussed in relation to the needs of CSOs and is clearly one of the main points CSOs are being asked to consider.

COUNTRY RESPONSES



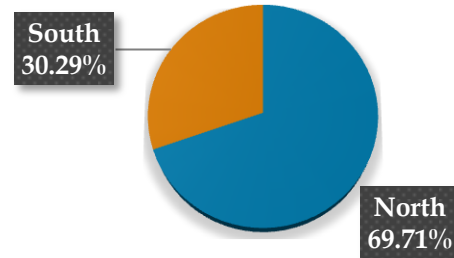
NorthMed CSOs: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden; UK;  
SouthMed CSOs: Algeria, Egypt, Mauritania, Morocco, Tunisia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Turkey

NUMBER OF SUBMITTED PROPOSALS BY NETWORK



From the launch of the CfP last February up until the deadline, the ALF Grants team has been dedicated to help applicants best prepare their proposals during these trying times, and has closely monitored the impact of the pandemic on the open Call. A corrigendum containing a new timeline in order to better adapt to the changes arising from the health crisis was issued.

Number of submitted proposals North/South

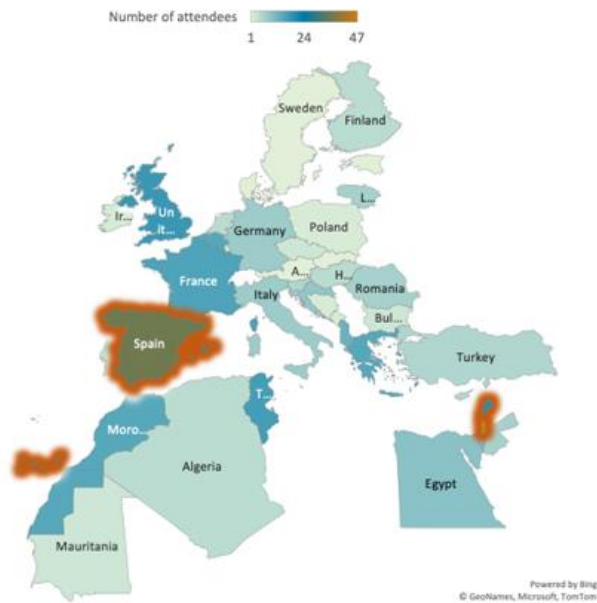


Furthermore, the ALF Grants Team regularly monitored the number of new drafts and submitted proposals, posted answers to applicants' questions through an online platform created to that end, published Power Point Presentations with information for applicants, and organized and hosted two bilingual webinars to further provide applicants with tips on submitting successful proposals and give them the opportunity to ask more questions and request further clarifications. These info sessions have proven to be highly successful with 347 attendees participating in these events (see chart below).

GRANTS

This quarter has been a busy one for the ALF Grants Team, which has worked relentlessly on the 2020 Call for Proposals (CfP), both from the ALF Headquarters in Alexandria and from home after the lockdown caused by the Covid-19 health crisis. This situation has not prevented the Call from being successful thanks to the many Southern and Northern Mediterranean civil society organisations that have shown considerable interest in the current ALF Grants Scheme. After postponing the deadline for submission of proposals by one month in order to adapt to the changes arising from the pandemic, the ALF Secretariat is delighted to announce that more than 200 proposals were received by the final deadline on May 28th 2020 (see charts below).

Info Sessions of the 6th and 7th of May 2020 Combined: Participation by Network



As the evaluation of the submitted proposals begins, the next phase will surely be as exciting. The Grants Team would like to thank and wish the best of luck to all the participant organisations, and is looking forward to supporting the work and projects of the successful applicants, which is now more relevant than ever. □

ALF NATIONAL NETWORKS



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

IDENTIFY AND MONITOR ONLINE THREATS IN SOCIAL MEDIA – 24, 25 FEBRUARY 2020

The event, which marked the beginning of the implementation of the EU-funded project "Strengthening Civil Society in Bosnia and Herzegovina to Identify and Monitor Online Threats on Social Media", took place on February 24 and 25 at the Ibis Styles Hotel in Sarajevo.



*Identify and Monitor Online Threats in Social Media*

The project brought together young people from all over Bosnia and Herzegovina, their mentors, coordinators and monitors, to identify trends in hate speech and radicalization that lead to violent extremism and to recognize the forms in which such communication occurs in social media.

For this purpose, a web platform will be created on which information will be exchanged and content that brings this issue closer to young people, civil society, the media and institutions. The event also presented an ongoing study on the impact of these trends on young people, especially the vulnerable categories of this population. One of the partners of the project is precisely the Youth Resource Center Tuzla, in front of which the participants were: Slobodan Blagovčanin (mentor), Mirela Biković, Emir Karamujić, Elda Lolić, Lejla Galušić, Dzejla Krdžalić, Amir Havić and Emana-Hanan Pinjić.

Even salt looks like sugar – Sremski Karlovci, Serbia

An international youth exchange took place in Sremski Karlovci from March 10 to March 16.

Erasmus + Youth Exchange was held as part of the Even Salt Looks Like Sugar project. The purpose of youth exchange was to teach young people about the essential concepts of media literacy. Even Salt Looks Like Sugar is a youth exchange project between the countries of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Slovenia, Palestine, Lebanon and Tunisia.

The project was originally scheduled to run from March 10-19. Unfortunately, due to the situation caused by the Covid-19 virus pandemic, the youth exchange was interrupted on 16 March.

Youth Resource Center Tuzla is a partner in the ESLLS project, together with a consortium of partners from the countries mentioned above. The project leader is an organization from Serbia, Balkan Idea Novi Sad - BINS.

The project is co-financed by the European Commission through the Erasmus + Youth in Action program KA1. The representatives of the Tuzla Youth Resource Center were Slobodan Blagovčanin and Emir Karamujić.




*#StayHome - Volunteer Team Tuzla*

In accordance with the decision of the Federation Government to declare the state of disaster caused by the spread of coronavirus, the Tuzla Youth Resource Center has decided to launch the #Stay Home - Team of Tuzla Volunteers with the aim of helping our elderly citizens and all Tuzla citizens who are at risk and therefore unable to make their own purchases of groceries, medicines, payment of bills, etc.



The aim of the group is: To reach out to all young and able people who want to help one of their fellow citizens. If you live outside BiH, we urge you not to come until the situation stabilizes, and until then let us know if anyone in Tuzla needs help. If you are the one who needs help in this crisis situation, you also only need to write to the group and we believe that a young and capable person will come to help you.

**WARNING!!**

- A volunteer can only be a person who has not traveled recently and has not been given isolate, volunteer can only be a person who has not had symptoms of flu and cold in the previous 20 days, such as fever, cough, etc. [CLICK HERE TO FOLLOW THE GROUP.](#) 



CYPRUS

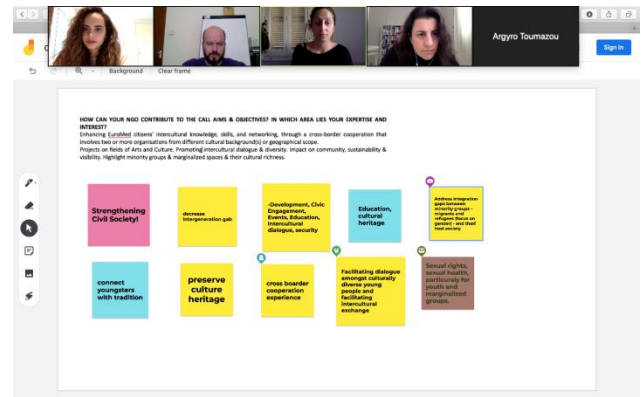
On the 30th of April 2020, and on the occasion of the Anna Lindh Foundation Call for Proposal 2020, the Heads of the Cyprus Network organized an online workshop to stimulate the participation, resolve doubts in the process of application and also inform interested CSOs about the work of ALF and our Network.



Online workshop

The target groups of this workshop were Cypriot organizations that are members of the Anna Lindh Foundation Network and any other organization legally registered in the Republic of Cyprus.

During the webinar and after a brief introduction of the Anna Lindh Foundation, directed mainly to the invited CSOs which were not members of ALF yet, we addressed some important questions regarding the Call for Proposals 2020. We presented the components to understanding the guidelines of ALF Call for Proposals and then explained how the Cyprus Network of ALF could support organizations in searching for partners. We also delivered to the participants' strategies and suggestions to prepare a successful application for the Call for Proposals, as well as some advice about how to create concept notes for a more successful partner finding.



Zoom - online workshop

The online workshop gathered 20 representatives from civil society organizations in Cyprus. □



EGYPT

MEETINGS WITH BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF EGYPTIAN NETWORK - From February to May

From February to May the Egyptian Network made 3 meetings with Board of Directors of Egyptian network of Anna Lindh to discuss the matters of Egyptian network and its updates and challenges faced the Egyptian network in general and how the network can work and making the activities because of COVID-19.



Meetings with BOD of Egyptian Network

Governance activities

- The Egyptian network received more than 50 requests from Egyptian organizations on membership, and examined these requested
- Making the review and amendments in internal rules of Egyptian network.

## Newsletter

Head of Egyptian network decided to make Second edition from Egyptian newsletter for members of Network; this newsletter aimed to straighten the relation among members of Egyptian Network and facilitate to know the activities of Egyptian members to make partnership and joint events among them in Egypt.

### Anna Lindh Grant

- Call: Head of Egyptian network submitted on the Anna Lindh grant call on the topic of Intercultural dialogue to combat the hate speech with the partners from HONs.
- Big numbers of the Egyptian members submitted on this call or were the partner with other members of Anna Lindh. Others Head of Egyptian network published the press statement about the world day for culture diversity through introduction and development. □



Anna Lindh -säätiön  
Suomen verkosto

## FINLAND

### A SERIES OF “WEDNESDAY WEBINARS” ON ALF THEMES

The Finnish network organised a seven-part webinar series during the corona lockdown in April and May 2020. For webinar topics, we selected a wide range of central ALF themes many of them not treated extensively in the Finnish network activities earlier, such as media and power, youth climate activism and social arts. The webinar series was a success, and each webinar attracted new audiences from the Finnish civil society.

The most positive feedback was received from the webinar “How pictures are used: Migration in visual media”. In this webinar, three photojournalist and a chief editor of a major Finnish media house discussed how migrants and people of colour are represented in the Finnish mainstream media. The picture in the paper is always a choice made by someone. There is power involved in how pictures are cropped and chosen. Nowadays migrants are often portrayed as males approaching us with a threatening look. On the other hand, during WWII when the refugees were white Europeans, they were portrayed as children and women needing help.

The webinar series was initiated because of the corona outbreak. However, organizing webinars appeared to be an

effective method to gain visibility for the network, bring together civil society actors and to initiate new discussions. Organising events online was deemed cost efficient and it also ensured that participants outside the capital city area could join. We also managed to find completely new audiences and open discussions on topics that had not received much attention in the Finnish network earlier. There is no way we could have managed to arrange seven face-to-face events in just two months, but on online platform this was possible. □



Fondation Anna Lindh  
Réseau Français

## FRANCE

### THE VIRUSES AND US



Victor Hugo Espinosa, president of L’Air et Moi, offers a new tool, related to the health crisis we are all experiencing, with the participation of an educational committee and a committee of experts. This program is supported by AtmoSud, ARS and the French network of the Anna Lindh Foundation. The Viruses and Us aims to explain Coronavirus to children (6-9 years, 9-12 years, 12 years and over). It was designed to help adults explain to children how to better understand what a virus is, how it works, the epidemics it causes and the need for containment. According to the teachers in our teaching team, The Viruses and Us, will be very helpful in introducing children to schools and colleges to the coronavirus. These activities constitute a wealth of information that can be used at different times during the school career to support lessons. This slideshow, which can be downloaded free of charge, was produced in a spirit of sharing and solidarity. It will continue to improve with networks contributions as a free slideshow. The French network of the ALF will participate in editions and translations in order to widely disseminate this animation to the international network (42 countries)

<https://airandme.org/fr/les-virus-et-nous/>. □





# Anna Lindh Stiftung Deutsches Netzwerk

## GERMANY

Since November 2019, ZAK | Centre for Cultural and General Studies has been participating in EPICUR (European Partnership for Innovative Campus Unifying Regions), an alliance of eight European universities which aims to create an attractive, innovative network of European universities for a new generation. Over the next three years, the EPICUR alliance will receive five million euros in funding from the European Commission. The ZAK is involved in the task “Pilot for research internships at academic and civil society partners”. These internships in civil society organisations will be framed by a service learning format which has already been successfully established at ZAK. Working in selected (international) NGOs enables students to gain work-related experience and a closer insight into the work and mission of civil society organisations. For their part, the NGOs benefit from the academic know-how of the students.

The second edition of the Euro-Med Debate Online Competition in the frame of the European Commission’s pilot project “Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange” took place from 18th to 26th April 2020. Building on the successful first competition in 2019, the activity again brought together 40 debate teams from the EU and the Southern Mediterranean. Young people from diverse backgrounds and students from higher education institutions met online and, supported by a network of Debate Team Leaders, Trainers and Adjudicators, debated on current topics of their choice. After the final debate, which was also open to all other participants, ALF-President Elisabeth Guigou announced the winning team “Brussels-Tripoli-Napoli” lead by Debate Team Leader Burak Yusmak from Germany. His team was composed of debaters from seven nations, reflecting the diversity and interculturality of this activity. □



# ‘Ιδρυμα Anna Lindh Ελληνικό Δίκτυο

## GREECE

On Friday 6 March 2020, the Greek Network participated at the meeting organized by the Municipality of Tripolis (Peloponnese, Greece), member of the network, with the cultural organizations of the city, in the framework of the Operational Planning of the Municipality for the period 2020-2025.



*Participation of the Greek Network at the Meeting with Cultural Organizations of Municipality of Tripolis.*

The Greek Network represented by Ms. Athina Korovesi, as speaker, following an invitation by the Mayor of Tripolis, Mr. Konstantinos Tzioumis. Ms. Korovesi talked about the Activities of the Anna Lindh Foundation Greek Network as well as about the funding and not only opportunities from the participation in the network.

During the COVID-19 pandemic and the national lockdown the Greek Network had made an effort to stay in touch with all its members, be informed about their current situation and support them. In addition to the frequent personal contact with the most, we organized some online “ALF Talks” with the members. The participants expressed their feelings for these conditions, their anxieties and concerns. Moreover, we discussed some thoughts for plans in the future in case of a repetition of a similar situation.



IRELAND

HERSTORY - Education Project



In February 2020 the Irish Herstory movement launched Herstory: Ireland's EPIC women, Ireland's first 360° comprehensive storytelling platform celebrating women, in partnership with RTÉ, the Broadcasting Association of Ireland, EPIC The Irish Emigration Museum and Underground Films. The project featured a 6 episode TV documentary series and 18 x episode podcast series produced by award-winning film production company Underground Films; International Herstory Light Festival, 6 children's animated short films by RTÉ Junior; interactive schools workshops, a campaign to make Brigid's Day a National Holiday and an online interactive 'Herstory' microsite on RTÉ Culture. This is a legacy education project and will be accessible for free as an online educational resource for generations to come. Discover more: [www.rte.ie/herstory](http://www.rte.ie/herstory).

SPUD (2009 - 2019) Artist Book (April 2020)

Deirdre O'Mahony's publication 'Spud' represents a ten year project by the artist who has represented Irish network member organizations from the west of Ireland in many ALF projects.



Online ALF Talks

Many of our members implemented and still implement some activities in the framework of the pandemic too. See some of them above. ELIAMEP organizes online public discussions on many issues related to COVID-19: Coronavirus and EU, Migrant integration in times of COVID-19, Coronavirus – challenges, risks, opportunities. Academy of Entrepreneurship in order to support small businesses implemented online seminars about the Cost Management in crisis periods. Finally, Ethelon, is preparing a report about the voluntarism during the pandemic of Covid-19. The research will be based on questionnaires aimed at the mapping of volunteering in Greece during this period and the effects it has had on our daily lives.

For more information visit our website

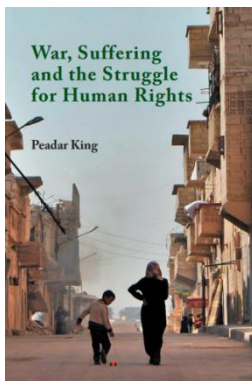
<https://www.alfhellas.gr/en> as well as our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/anna.lindh.hellas/> .



This book is based on a project which led her on many journeys for the past ten years, both physically and philosophically, including discussion regarding attitudes towards traditional, agricultural knowledge, and how it is often perceived as a kind of 'stupid' knowledge. From those early conversations the project grew, driven by questions arising from different encounters and public events including her facilitating a workshop in an ALF cross-network activity in Taroudant, Morocco, which she details in the book, and a subsequent residency in Jivar, Barcelona. Over time, the project extended into plantings in London, Barcelona, the National Famine Museum and the Irish Museum of Modern Art.

### War, Suffering and the Struggle for Human Rights (Liffey Press, March 2020).



Irish network member Peadar King, head of KMF Productions, which specialises in the production of documentaries on human rights issues for television, has just published a book titled 'War, Suffering and the Struggle for Human Rights'. Written from the perspective of people whose lives have been convulsed by war, Peadar King describes the root causes of ongoing conflicts in thirteen countries and passionately explains why the world must finally sit up and take notice. Peadar has been extensively involved in ALF projects for many years, including cross-network activities in Morocco, Spain and Tunisia as well as the ALF Forum in Malta 2016. □

## **Anna Lindh Foundation** **Jordanian Network**

### JORDAN

The Jordanian Network of the Anna Lindh Foundation held a youth debate at The Royal Institute for Interfaith Studies on February the 27<sup>th</sup>.



*Youth Debate organized by the Jordanian Network*

A youth debate in cooperation with a new member of the network, the Intellect and Debating Society from Princess Sumaya University for Technology, entitled: "This Council will decide a new Curriculum focusing on the values of tolerance and harmony for primary school students" and this statement is drawn from the report of the Anna Lindh Foundation (Intercultural Trends Report), which is issued every four years. Noting that the debate was held on the occasion of the first year anniversary of the launch of the report in the capital of Jordan, Amman, under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince El Hassan bin Talal, and also as one of the World Interfaith Harmony Week events. □



# Anna Lindh Fondas Lietuvos Tinklas

## LITHUANIA

Samogitian museum Alka, a member organisation in the Lithuanian Network enrolled in zoom seminar organized by the Anna Lindh Foundation on calls for project proposals and also participated in other online seminars or webinars.



One of them - the Association of Lithuanian Museums organized the first webinar "Communication of Digital Cultural Challenges Heritage: Reports, Media, and Audiences". the organisation has many different platforms where it provides audience with information about exhibits and activities.



One of them is the <https://www.limis.lt/> platform where exhibits are digitalized, the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/muziejusalka.lt> and Instagram pages [https://www.instagram.com/zemaiciu\\_muziejus\\_alka/](https://www.instagram.com/zemaiciu_muziejus_alka/) is constantly updated. □



# Fundación Anna Lindh Red Española

## SPAIN

The Executive Director of the Anna Lindh Foundation, Nabil Al Sharif, inaugurated the twentieth annual meeting of the Spanish Network which was held on March 5 and 6, 2020 in Seville and which brought together more than fifty entities. Dr Nabil Al-Sharif reflected with the representatives of the Network entities on various initiatives and actions for intercultural dialogue and recalled that the mandate of the ALF is now more valid than ever in the face of the growing challenges in the Mediterranean.



*Twentieth annual meeting of the Spanish Network*

The most important tool for improving intercultural dialogue is currently the empowerment of civil society and, in this sense, the call for proposals is an example of what the ALF offers to civil society. On the agenda ReFAL members took stock of the challenges achieved in 2019 and identified the objectives for 2020. Discussions tackled several aspects of the various programs and activities carried out within the network, including the mobility program, which strengthens collaboration and mutual knowledge between the participants since it promotes the exchange of good practices, as well as decentralized meetings organized in Andalusia, Catalonia, Madrid and Valencia and chaired by the Executive Committee. One week after this meeting, the global pandemic has forced everyone to remain confined and to continue working on the Internet from their home. During these months, communication with members intensified to assess their situation and give visibility to their actions before Covid-19. □



SWEDEN

A. Election of our new advisory committee



Elected members for the Advisory Committee

The Swedish network elects three new members for the advisory committee. The three members are: Bertil Björk from Stpln in Malmö, Josefin Stenmark from Bilda in Gothenburg and Parul Ghosh from Peers Bridge in Helsingborg. Their mandate will run from February 2020 to January 2022. The newly elected committee had their first meeting in Gothenburg on 5 March. The agenda included 2020 network programme and ALF affairs (challenges with the Secretariat and opportunities). □

B. Online network meeting



Swedish Network Virtual Meeting

14 members of the ALF Swedish network took part in the online virtual meeting on 7 May on the impact of Covid19 on their work and activities. Members exchanged solutions and new realities. The network coordinator answered questions related to the call for proposals. The meeting was facilitated by our network member Karin Bruce (LärOlika in Stockholm) and supported by the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and our network member Bilda. The meeting was followed by an online questionnaire regarding future online activities in 2020. □

TURKEY

In the first Quarter of the year 2020 ALF HoN Turkey organized and took part in several activities.



Euromed Debate Competition

In February, ALF Turkey registered its own Team to take part in the prestigious EuroMed Debate Competition with its youngest main members to represent our Turkish Network with the highest commitment and fair-play.



Collage - Solidarity from the ALF Family

In April, ALF HoN Turkey took part in the Solidarity Online Campaign wishing SOLIDARITY to everyone, hoping for a better future and sharing the hashtag #STAYSAFE.



*Turkish Network Virtual Meeting*

Later in April, ALF HoN Turkey organized the ALF Network Members Virtual Meeting and the ALF TURKEY Talk#2 Meeting where Mr. Şamil Ayrim, Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean, Head of the Turkish Group, hold a speech about the Union for the Mediterranean, expressed his best wishes or the success of ALF Turkey Network and underlined the importance of the civil society as one of the major role players for the Society.

This event was a chance to get the New Members of ALF Turkey introduced. Warmly welcomed to our Network were Genç Düşünce Enstitüsü, Douzan Art and Culture (Düzen Kültür ve Sanat), Bilkent University Department of Political Science & Public Administration, İyilik Denizi, FeminAmfi, Uluslararası Yardımlaşma ve Entegrasyon Derneği (TIAFI) Team International Assistance for Integration, MARMARA GROUP STRATEGIC AND SOCIAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION, MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, Institute for Future Research, AKVİL - AVRASYA KÜLTÜR İŞBİRLİĞİ VE İŞ LOBİSİ VAKFI, Japanese Music and Arts Association, FİLİZ, Association for Supporting of Women Candidates. □

## SOLIDARITY

From The Anna Lindh Foundation

*The Anna Lindh Foundation is continuing to work from remote despite the pandemic with utmost commitment and dedication.*



**#StaySafe**

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Special thanks to the Networks who have provided us with information on their activities.

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