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GRUPA "HAJDE DA..." / GROUP "LET'S..."

ANNUAL REPORT

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"Hajde da..." ("Let's...") group commenced with work in spring 1999, during the NATO bombing campaign. It was registered as an NGO in November of the same year. Most of the group members are psychologists and psychology students. The group has been formed and operates out of the strong need of its members to be proactive in the society and time they live in.

*The frame of our work is **non-formal peace education** and support to culture of non-violence, which we deal with through development of skills of non-violent communication, constructive conflict resolution and offering support to personal development. **Psychosocial support** is also a significant field of our work. The method of our work is mainly that of workshops - participation and empirical.*

MISSION of the "Hajde da..." group is to spread the ideas of non-violence, improvement of mental health and civil awareness of the people.

OBJECTIVES of the Group are the following:

- Peace building and promoting the concept of non-violence
- Psychosocial support to endangered individuals and groups
- Promoting the values of civil society and social activism
- Affirmations of non-formal education
- Research work in the field of individual and group social behaviour

PROJECTS REALIZED

- **PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT TO INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE** in the Kraljevo region including the work with children, youth and women. The objective of this project was the assistance in recovering from trauma, and, subsequently, support to activation and integration in the environment. About 100 beneficiaries were included during 7 months. This project had been started in September 2000. and lasted until the end of March 2001.
The project was conducted at the NPA Community Center in Kraljevo, with the support of *Norwegian People's Aid*.
- **SUMMER YOUTH CAMP IN GOC**, intended for young people from Kraljevo pertaining both to the displaced people and local population. The goal of the camp was to enable the establishing of open communication between them and to support their integration. The camp also had its ecological component. The camp was supported by the *Fund for an Open Society, the Embassy of Finland, Danish Refugee Council and the UMCOR*.
- **"ROAD SIGNS TO PERSONAL TREASURE"**
"Hajde da..." group started with three-month project "Road signs to Personal Treasure" on October 5th 2001. This program is intended to Romany children and young people and its main aim is to show to the participants how to reconsider their identities, values, and how to emphasize positive capacities and characteristics. This project is designed for two groups of a different age (group of children 7-10 years old and group of young people 11-18 years old). At the last workshop organized in Rex on December 26th, Romany children were accompanied by the non-Romany children of the same age.
The most of the program took place in Community Center "8th April" in Mali Mokri Lug, under patronage of *Norwegian People's Aid*.



photo: "Road signs to Personal Treasure" project, children at the Roma Community Center "April 8th"

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- **"PREJUDICES AND ETHNIC STEREOPTYPES"**, a workshop for an international group of psychology students, held at the 15th European Psychology Students Association Confereneec in Budapest in April 2001. The title of the Conferenece was "The role of European psychologists in prevention and treatment of discriminationa, rasicm and xenophobia".
The main goals of the workshop were as follows:
Facing with our own prejudices and ethnic stereotypes, To put some more light on the role of prejudices we have in forming our opinions and attitudes, To see what we, European psychology students' and psychologists' organization could do about it.
- **"GENDER THROUGH CENTURIES"**
Intensive set of worksops that provides basic knowledge on gender issues occured in June 2001 with a group of 40 young people. Aims of this project were: drawing a dinstinction between sex and gender, exploring the problems of gender roles and social presures, questioning equality and enjoying same rights men and women had in past and have in the present, in different cultures.
The project has done within the program of Postpessimists of Belgrade and XXL Group. A co-trainer of worksops was Mrs Jelena Jovanovic, a "Hajde da ..." training team member.
- **PEACE EDUCATION ADVOCACY CONSULTATION**
The group "Hajde da..." endorses the Global Campaign for Peace Education. Therefore we had a representative at the "Peace education advocacy consultation", an international event organised within the context of the Hague Appeal for Peace Global Campaign for Peace Education. The meeting was organized by the International Peace Bureau from Geneva and took place at the Universitaire Populaire Albanaise in Geneva on June 8th 2001. The main purpose of the day was to explore -- by hearing from a variety of practitioners from different countries -- how it has been possible to change attitudes and incorporate peace education into the curriculum in schools and non-formal settings.
- **"FOLLOW UP" MEETINGS with participants of Youth Summer Camp, Goc 2001.**
During the first half of August 2001. members of "Hajde da..." group organized their first camp. The participants were young people from Kraljevo and young people of the same age who came to live in Kraljevo from Kosovo and Metohija.
At the end of August and October we were their guests. Participants of the Summer Camp were our hosts; one group organized visit to Vrnjacka Banja and the other two-day field trip to Stolovi with accommodation in mountain cottage. Time spent in the country and good mood characterized our reunion, just as it was during the Summer Camp.
- **"BRIDGES FOR TRAINING"**
Training-fair "Bridges for training" took place in Bruges (Belgium) 15th - 19th September 2001. and it was the result of cooperation between several partners - European Union, European Council and SALTO-YOUTH - Jint and others. The aim was to connect main organizations and individuals involved in unofficial education and work with young people. "Bridges for Training" have been 'built' so that

participants from all over the Europe could get information about various activities of other organizations and to expose to others what are their own fields of interest and activities. That was opportunity to present new methods of work and to create a discussion most important topics of work with young people and unofficial education in Europe.

"Hajde da..." stand at this fair was very popular (judging by the number of leaflets taken). Workshop "Alphabet of Feelings" conducted by Stanislava Vuckovic was aimed to introduce European trainers to possibilities of working in a crisis situation, especially to show them ways of providing psychosocial help to endangered individuals and groups during the war and in post-war conditions.

- **SECOND REGIONAL NGO FAIR IN TIMISOARA**

We attended second Regional NGO Fair organized by CED (Euro regional Center for Democracy) 20th -23rd September. More than 200 NGO from Southeast Europe participated.

There were two simultaneous happenings at the fair: official, at the stands and less official that took place in NGO Café. The result of our trip to Romania is common project with "Centar za pomoc mladima" from Ljubljana and a lot of contacts.

- **"BUILDING BRIDGES PLAYFULLY"**

European Play Work Association from Hamburg in cooperation with "Hajde da..." organized study visit to Belgrade named "Building Bridges Playfully" from 3rd- 9th October 2001. Aim of this visit was connection and exchange of experience between people who work with children and young people, as well as preparations for forthcoming Congress e.p.a. in Skopje during 2002.

According to schedule participants visited local projects in this field, that was taking place in Belgrade and Pancevo at the moment. Besides members of e.p.a. and "Hajde da...", participants of this gathering were members of "Centar za pomoc mladima", from Ljubljana, as well as representatives of local NGOs (Grupa 484, NVO Susret, VelikiMali, Društvo prijatelja dece Srbije).



photo: "Building Bridges Playfully" in Pancevo

- **"CROSS BORDER INFORMATION EXCHANGE"**

Since October 2001 there are dialogues going on between groups of people living in Kosovo and Metohija and their neighbours displaced all over Serbia at the moment. These dialogues are going on as a part of "Border Information Exchange" project by UMCOR and it includes representatives of UNHCR and UNMIK. The aim of these meetings is to provide information for internally displaced people about current situation in the places they come from and about possibilities of getting help in case they decide to go back and live in Kosovo again. Members of our group Emina Kopic, Stanislava Vuckovic and Danijela Jovic, facilitated these meetings.

- **"CONFLICT RESOLUTION - THE LEADER AS A MEDIATOR"**

Within the regional project "Balkan Debate" organized by PACE (Bulgaria) and PROTECTA (Niš), trainers from "Hajde da..." group conducted a training named "Conflict Resolution - The Leader as a Mediator" in Niška Banja. Training lasted 30th November - 2nd December and it was conceived as an introductory training to this field intended for young politicians from 4 Balkan countries (Albania, Bulgaria, Serbia and FYR of Macedonia). This training was conceived and conducted by Stanislava Vuckovic and Darko Markovic.

- **FIRST MEETING OF PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS IN NOVI SAD**

Students of department for Psychology at University of Novi Sad organized first meeting of students from former Yugoslav republics 20th - 23rd December in order to exchange information on circumstances in this science and ways of its use in practice in the region.

"Hajde da..." group was invited to conduct 2 three-hour workshops. Our aim was to show possibilities and significance of work within community through presentation of our work. First workshop dealt with problems of traumatic experiences and the second with tolerance for differences. Participants were students from FYR of Macedonia, Croatia, Bosnia and Kosovo. The workshops were conceived and conducted by Stanislava Vuckovic and Marko Pejovic.

- **PUBLIC PROJECT PRESENTATION AND PRESS CONFERENCE**

On December 26th the Group "Hajde da..." organized a public presentation of the organizational activities with special emphasis on the project "Road Signs to Personal Treasure". At the presentation there were 3 workshops aimed to integrate Romany and non-Romany children and youth.

Along with the workshops, there was a Press Conference focused on the presentation of the "Hajde da..." group and our experiences in work with Roma population. At the end, there was a video performance, when two films, made during the project, have been shown to journalists, NGO representatives and participants at the workshops. The event was financially supported by Norwegian People's Aid.

