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„Creating Bridges for Europe“ 24th – 28th July 2017 in Bad Urach

From 24th July 2017, 18.00 to 28th July 2017, 13.00 the qualifying workshop „Creating Bridges for Europe“, part of the project “Open Doors for Danube Countries for ALL (ODDA)” took place in Bad Urach.

Organized by: Institute for virtual and face-to-face learning in adult education at Ulm University (ILEU) e.V. in cooperation with Center for General Scientific Continuing Education (ZAWiW), Danube-Networkers for Europe (DANET) e.V., State Agency for Civic Education Baden-Württemberg. The workshop was financially supported by: Baden-Württemberg Foundation, Heidehof Foundation, State Agency for Civic Education Baden-Württemberg, Foster-Europe Foundation, Danube Civil Society Forum, Fundraising group ZAWiW and others.

Since the foundation of the Danube-Networkers in 2008, the aim has been to strengthen social cohesion in the Danube countries and Europe through education and international understanding. To us, Europe is a house under whose roof a multiplicity of people with different national, ethnic, social, religious or cultural origin can live together and converge peacefully. With our international projects we want to support an open, solidary society on the base of democratic values.

Against this background, in this workshop low-threshold, practical methods which are useful to start communication and experience community (even if there are no or hardly any mutual language skills) were tested (by key words, key sentences, gestures, pictures, music, dance etc.) together with participants in the European project ODDA. They give access to different areas of everyday life (dos/don'ts for greeting, eating, in daily grind) and develop confidence. The workshop and the obtained results are part of extensive capacity building for social behavior and commitment as well as a contribution to support intercultural education, to tear down stereotypes and prejudices, to sensitize to cultural diversity in European countries and strengthen European awareness.

Representatives of civic institutions in the fields of education, culture, social issues and environment from 7 Danube countries as well as participants from other European countries came. The language of communication was English and translation assistance in different languages was given.

The whole workshop was documented on social media channels:

<https://www.facebook.com/oddaproject/>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRLJU9Za7QUwVXbO5Tlwjw>