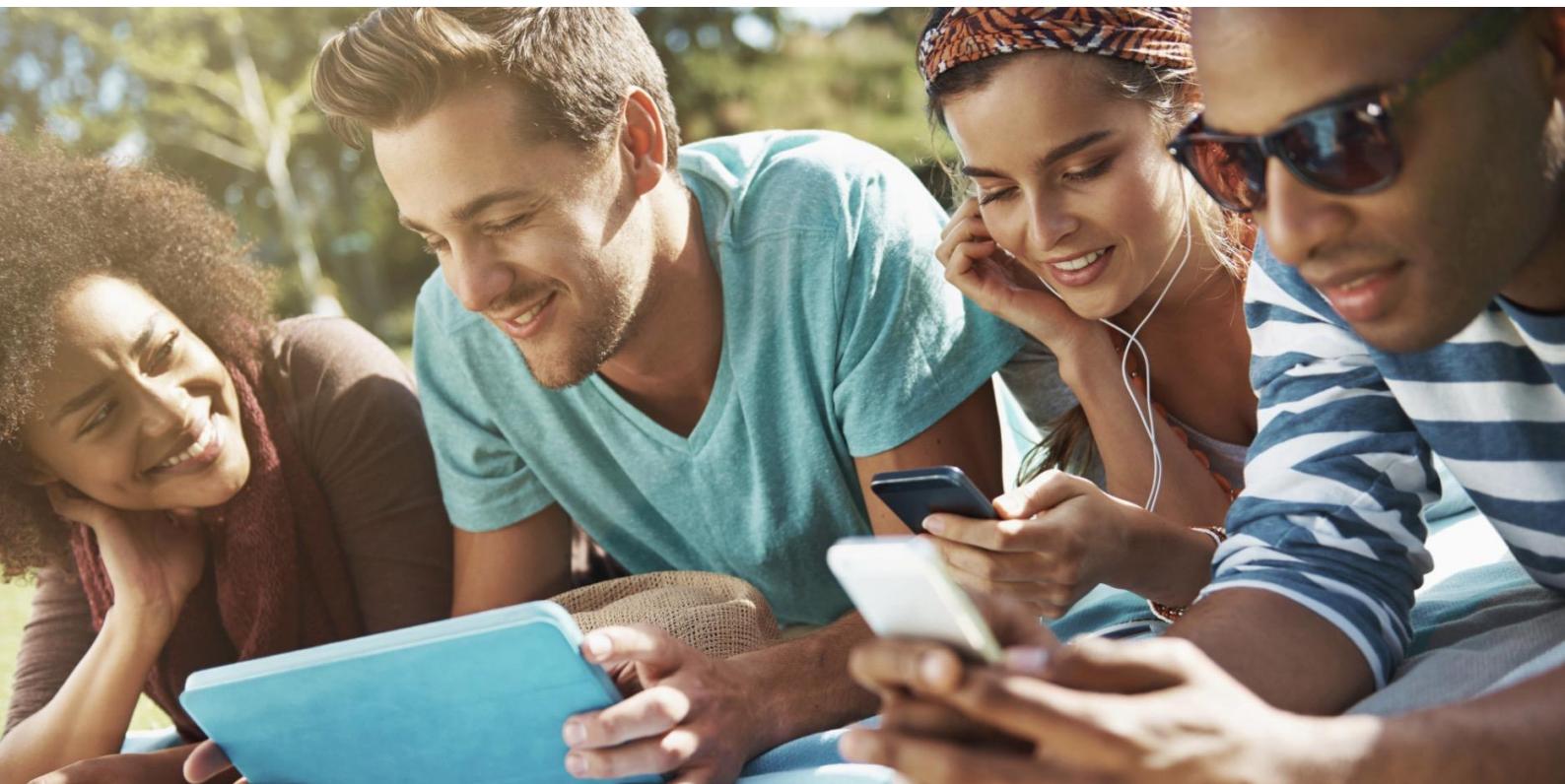


INTEGRATION THROUGH YOUTH WORK

Guidelines for actions, events, methods involving
refugees & youth



Abstract

Guidelines includes over 40 different actions & methods to involve refugees into youth work; and, thus, foster their integration efforts. These are going to be tested in real environment in Lithuania & Latvia throughout summer and autumn of 2017 (as activities of a wider Erasmus+ project "Together: Refugees & Youth").

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About the Project

"Together: Refugees & Youth" (TRY) aims to create a special programme in which youth workers would include refugees in their work with youth. This way the youth would get a chance to develop in a multicultural environment – thus building up their tolerance and increasing multilingualism. In the meanwhile, the refugees would integrate into the society faster, since the youth would help them with the local language, culture, traditions, etc.

OBJECTIVES to achieve this: 1) improve local youth work by involving refugees with their skills and experience; 2a) integrate refugees to the societies faster by allowing cultural exchange with the local youth; also, 2b) help their integration by promoting more favourable public opinion for them; 3) provide youth workers with tools & standards for multi-cultural element in their work; and 4) lower xenophobia, racism and foster multilingualism among the local youth.

To fulfil what is planned, TRY will have a total duration of 2 years (June 2016 - May 2018). Its activities will take place in Latvia, Lithuania and Croatia.



Erasmus+



About Methodology

Note that all the opinions expressed in this publication, any conclusions and recommendations do not necessarily coincide with the position of the European Commission and/or Erasmus+.

The methodology is a product of: 1) research on the feasibility of integration through youth work¹; and 2) a corresponding training event for Latvian & Lithuanian youth workers². It includes the list of activities/actions/methods to integrate refugees into youth work. Guidelines on how to carry out that properly are also briefly listed. These regard such things as how to:

1. organise the activities
2. ensure participation of youth & refugees
3. avoid and diffuse potential clashes
4. communicate with the wider public effectively
5. use other existing relevant material

Using the guidelines

Activities/actions/methods are sorted into 7 groups (cultural; sightseeing & public; sports; crafts & talents; fun & entertainment; educational & practical; and other). Each of these is also given a different colour code. More about the grouping in the table 1.

1: colour code for the separate groups of pilot programme's activities

| Group | Description | Colour code |
|-------------------------|---|-------------|
| Sightseeing & public | Involves trips, sightseeing excursions, public actions & initiatives (e.g. flash-mobs) | Blue |
| Cultural | Music, literature, dancing, theatre, etc. | Purple |
| Crafts & talents | Includes various crafts & making of things, as well as unusual talents (e.g. henna tattoos) | Red |
| Fun & entertainment | Does not require much input or know-how from participants (e.g. movie night) | Orange |
| Sports | team and individual sports, as well as exercising & strenuous activities (e.g. yoga) | Green |
| Educational & practical | learning & activities, that help practically (e.g. job search or interview preparation) | Gold |
| Other | All kind of different activities, that do not fall into the 6 categories listed above | Grey |

Every separate activity has a brief description on what it is and how it should be implemented. It also gives (country) specific tips where and when applicable. For

¹ Summary of the research - <http://refugees.lt/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/TRY-Research-Summary.pdf>

² Press release after the training - <https://www.facebook.com/notes/refugees-in-europe/refugee-integration-in-the-baltics/223646298062701>

instance, language games/learning could be done together with Erasmus Students' Network (ESN), who are adept in making such activities. Lastly, the descriptions tell about the venue required, recommended number of people and anything else of importance (such as whether a strong bond between refugees & youth workers / youngsters is crucial).

Organising the activities

It is of key importance to properly organise and coordinate the activities, actions & methods given in this document. This is because refugees & youngsters are involved, and, naturally, some groundwork is necessary. Thus, good part of TRY was & is dedicated to finding the right formula on carrying out such activities. The main findings may be seen below. These can be grouped in to the following: 1) ensuring continuous participation of both refugees & youth; 2) preparing the groups and avoiding & diffusing potential clashes; 3) making the activities interesting, relevant & useful; and 4) public relations & communication.

Ensuring continuous participation of both refugees & youth. Obviously, forming a new relationship as an adult person is not the easiest thing. It takes time and most of the people are not prepared to invest that. Yet, to guarantee refugee participation, one needs precisely to create bonds. The same goes for the refugees, as they should befriend youth workers, as well as youngsters taking part in the activities. The tip therefore is to start off slow (i.e. carrying out activities that do not require a strong bond between people involved. For example, a football match could be played by strangers). It is even better if the activities undertaken help to build up a future relationship (see *Summary of activities* for our suggestions). Smaller groups at first should make it easier too.

***Tip for readers:** check the Pilot programme activities, actions & methods for ones, which could be done in small groups and do not require a strong bond to begin with (but helps to build it up).*

A closer cooperation between youth NGOs, youth centres and the organizations that oversee the socialization of refugees in the country needs to be supported. Using already existing activities, young people could build up social ties with refugees easier.

To interest both youngsters and refugees, it is also necessary to be loud about the potential benefits (i.e. positive impact) to both groups. For the young, this entails experiencing new cultures, spending their time doing interesting and impactful activities, etc. As well as making new friends.

Whereas, refugees should be encouraged to take part because: 1) they could become a part of a bigger family (in the youth centre); 2) change their lives for the better by getting to know more of the local culture, language, etc.; and 3) get a chance to self-express throughout the activities.

Regarding the latter, including the refugees in the planning process of an activity/action or the whole activity programme is advisable. This way, they would not just express themselves creatively, but also will likely make the activities more interesting and relevant in the end. For instance, some of the activity plan could be built around refugees' hobby, such as making kites. At the same time, their involvement would then be necessary and refugees could very well see that. Being vital for a successful implementation is a good driver to participate more eagerly.

Tip for readers: involve refugees in the planning, making & implementation of the activities.

Preparing the groups, avoiding & diffusing potential clashes. As the fore mentioned research¹ has indicated, a two-way preparation is necessary. NGO's (and their youth workers) should be working towards local communities to be more tolerant.

It is important to keep in mind that cultural differences, respect and intercultural learning, etc. should be addressed in work with young people. This is since the need for refugees "to live by the norms of the countries who are accepting them" was expressed intensively during the same research. The topic is sensitive, so it would be necessary to discuss integration, assimilation and what do these words mean to youngsters.

For better cultural understanding, youth could be given literature (novels / magazines) on orientalism or Arab culture, etc. Even a list of music (e.g. Spotify list) or movies would be helpful.

Tip for readers: to get to know the culture youth could be given Spotify list of Arab music, list of best Arab movies and/or a short novel.

More important is training on how to start and maintain conversation with refugees. Especially, during the initial contact. This should focus on avoiding:

- sensitive topics (e.g. how is your home?)
- victimisation (e.g. I am sorry for the difficulties you face here)
- exclusion from the local society and ghettoising (e.g. are Lithuanians nice to refugees?)

Youth organizations should join other actors in the field and provide aid to (young) refugees too, such as giving psychological or academic consultations. It is important to involve providers of such services (therapists, etc.) in constructing the help to meet the needs of refugees.

Additionally, youth workers need to receive training on working with people from refugee background and including them into activities with local youth. The training

should regard intercultural learning, human rights education, diversity, work with groups and interfaith. Existing material could be used to help this task. For example, in Lithuania there is a special methodology³ (in Lithuanian) prepared for social workers that engage with refugees. It touches on most of the relevant subjects.

Know-how in conflict management is of key importance too. Youth workers should be trained not only how to avoid cultural clashes, but also what to do if that happens (how to diffuse the situation). Surely, this relies a lot on knowing the culture, but tactfulness and preparation in psychology are also handy.

Making the activities interesting, relevant & useful. First and foremost, the activities should not be one-off. This means that there should be a continuation foreseen.

Integration, as well as building up of social bonds (between refugees & locals) requires time. For that reason, the pilot programme of TRY is going to oversee weekly (smaller-scale) activities rather than one big event.

Tip for readers: integration is a step by step process. Thus, having weekly continuous activities is more desirable than a single big event.

If there are several youth workers and refugees willing to engage in making and implementing activities together, matching them per their interests would be appropriate. For instance, two people that are into sports would get along together much easier. They would likewise be a better team in youth work. It is an authors' recommendation to use separate activity groups (sports, entertainment, talents & crafts, etc. - listed in table 1) as interests for such matching.

Lastly, to make integration through youth work even more efficient, refugees should be given a sense that their community is strong and letting their roots in. This could be done by inviting a mix of different ethnicities to activities (e.g. Afghans and Syrians). Normally, refugees from different backgrounds do not intermingle much. Given a chance, though, they could meet and greet others, that are facing similar situation and challenges. It is quite natural to expect, that such fellows could not only become friends, but also share tips and useful information with one another.

Public relations (PR) & communication. For activities to be successful it is important to keep in mind that they should be visible. Meaning both before and during the event itself and afterwards. Similarly, it should target participants (to take part) as well as the public (to raise awareness).

Prior to the activity, social networks should be used extensively (most of the youngsters, as well as refugees use those). This entails not just making a post, but also creating an

³ Methodology for social workers working with refugees (in Lithuanian) - http://www.sppd.lt/media/mce_filebrowser/2016/10/28/Migracijos_Metodologija_GOOD_3redakcija.pdf

event (e.g. on Facebook) and sending invitations. Besides, the flow of news should be continuous. It is recommended to inform about the event 4 times: 3-2 weeks before; 7-5 days before; 3-2 days before; and a reminder on the last day.

As for communication once the activity starts, there should be someone documenting it. Alternatively, it could be broadcasted live (via Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat or other). However, make sure to get a consent from the participants to use the photos/videos with them. For one, it could be that they do not want the publicity. More importantly, public photos of refugees might put some of their family members (still back at their previous home) in danger. The advice is to talk this out beforehand.

Tip for readers: *make sure refugees consent to using media material with them. Publicity might put some of their family members (at the source country) in danger.*

Lastly, a proper follow-up is crucial. Any news about the event should be released as soon as possible. These days media outlets do not accept anything that is older than 1-2 days. For that reason, there should always be a person (or a volunteer) responsible for making a press release about the event right away. Note that such issues should include high quality photo(s). Thus, the same or another person should take care of that too.

Pilot programme activities, actions & methods

Directions on how to use the guide are given in the *Using the guidelines* section above.

Summary of activities

First three columns of the table below are straightforward, the fourth needs an explanation: it indicates whether the activity is good for building up a link between the participants; or, on the contrary, it requires a (strong) bond between the participants. The colour code for this column is as following: **red** – bond is required; **green** – good for starting up a relationship. While **yellow** means that the activity is neutral in this sense.

Note: click on any of the names to jump to the more detailed description of that activity.

| No. | Name | Recommended no. of people | Bond between the participants |
|---|---|---------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Cultural activities | | | |
| 1 | Literature (poetry) nights | 5-15 | Required |
| 2 | Music night | 10-30 | Builds up |
| 3 | Music jam | 5-30 | Required |
| 4 | Theatre improvisation | 10-20 | Required |
| 5 | Dance evening | 10-30 | Required |
| 6 | Theatre of the oppressed | 10-30 | Required |
| Sports activities | | | |
| 7 | Sports "Olympics" event | 15-40 | Required |
| 8 | Colour run | From 10 | Neutral |
| 9 | Hiking | 5-30 | Builds up |
| 10 | Meditation | 10-30 | Required |
| Sightseeing & public activities | | | |
| 11 | Trips around local wildlife or tourist sights | 10-30 | Builds up |
| 12 | Public initiative akin "Let's Do It, World" | 10-40 | Builds up |
| 13 | Picnic in the city | 5-20 | Required |
| 14 | Orienteering games (City game) | 20-40 | Builds up |
| 15 | "Refugees Welcome" support activity | 3-5 / group | Neutral |
| 16 | Bike excursion | 10-20 | Neutral |
| 17 | Camping | 15-30 | Required |
| Talents & crafts | | | |
| 18 | Workshops for handcrafts | 15-30 | Builds up |
| 19 | Traditional cooking workshop | 15-30 | Builds up |
| 20 | Henna tattoo celebration | 10-30 | Required |
| 21 | Drawing / painting | 10-30 | Builds up |
| 22 | Building kites | 10-25 | Builds up |
| Education & practical activities | | | |
| 23 | Discussion evenings (World café) | 15-30 | Neutral |

| | | | |
|---|---|---------|-----------|
| 24 | Language games | 10-20 | Builds up |
| 25 | Experience sharing with volunteers from refugee camps/ refugee themselves | 15-30 | Neutral |
| Entertainment & fun activities | | | |
| 26 | LARP (Live Action Role Play) | 6-15 | Required |
| 27 | Pop quiz (pub quiz) | 24-36 | Neutral |
| 28 | Karaoke | 8-15 | Required |
| 29 | Water balloon fight | From 10 | Neutral |
| 30 | Escape room | 6-20 | Required |
| 31 | Table top evening | 10-25 | Builds up |
| 32 | Movie night | 15-30 | Neutral |
| 33 | Traditional games | 15-25 | Neutral |
| 34 | Video games night | 6-20 | Required |
| 35 | Photo taking competition | 10-30 | Builds up |
| Other activities | | | |
| 36 | Arab Culture Week | - | Neutral |
| 37 | Cooking fest – “Setting a World record” | 15-40 | Builds up |
| 38 | Maltese Soup event | 6-20 | Neutral |
| 39 | Instagram photo exhibition | - | Required |

Cultural activities

1. Literature (poetry) nights

Event, where both locals and refugees gather in a relaxing environment to share their creations of literature or poetry. Of course, it's not mandatory for everyone to share their stories and people can just come to listen to stories/creations of others. Everyone should be welcome. The event can take up to 1.5 hours.

Aim: gather refugees and locals and let them express their feelings and thoughts through literature/poetry.

What to know for organisers: promote the event in Facebook groups for people into writing. If possible, a writer/editor could be invited to give advice and recommendations to the amateurs. If people are somewhat scared to share their stories, facilitators might need to have a story or two prepared for a start (to encourage others).

(Tip for Lithuania) To gather more locals: try a Facebook group called “NaNoWriMo” (group for aspiring writers): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/381427078673833/>

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|---|---------------------------|--|
| can be held both inside & outside (if weather allows). Perfect environment – a cafe | from 5 to 15 | a bond between the participants might be necessary for them to share their stories |

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2. Music night

Event where both locals and refugees gather to listen to music from different parts of the world. Jazz, Pop, Rock, Indy - everything could be played under one roof. This also creates an environment for the participants to show their talent. Live bands from both locals and refugees may be arranged in advance. It would be great to have 1-2 hours of diverse music as a 'family'

Rationale: Music, they say, is the language of the soul and one that everybody understands and grooves to. It has no barriers and no judgments. It is also a great way for refugees' (if there are any) and upstart local bands to get some publicity.

Aim: gather locals and refugees for the same cause – to enjoy the music.

What to know for organisers: open call for local/refugee bands should be done at least half a month before the event to see, if there is interest. If the event is planned to be in open venue, a permission is needed from the government for the use of electricity for the equipment (speakers, equalizer, etc.)

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| can be held both inside & outside (if weather allows). Perfect environment – a cultural centre | 10-130 | great way to get to know each other; special equipment (guitars, speakers, etc.) might be necessary |

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3. Music jam

Event, where everyone is welcome to play any instrument or anything else that makes sound. No skill would be required and the only thing that would matter is the joy of participation. It is likely that participants would not only have fun, but also identify a music instrument of interest and play it as a hobby. Music Jam can take about 2-3 hours.

Rationale: a lot of people think, that because they are not pros, they can't produce music or sound. But the only thing one needs to produce sound is oneself. That's what this event would be all about. Spoons, hands, guitars, cups, pencils – ANYTHING can be used for making music. Music has no language or other barriers and that is why it is a good event to invite everyone.

3. Music jam

Aim: give refugees and locals an opportunity to express themselves through music; facilitate a connection through music between refugees and locals.

What to know for organisers: if the event is not in a venue with access to 'musical' instruments (guitar, drums, cups, pencils, etc.), buy or have something to improvise with. Even cups and clothes are a great way to make different sounds. Explain to the participants, that they can make use their imagination freely and make sound with whatever they deem fit.

(Tip) Open youth centre "Zalianamis" (Vilnius, Lithuania) has done such initiatives before and could likely help if in need of ideas.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| can be held both inside & outside (if weather allows). Perfect environment – a cultural centre | from 5 to 30 | some bond between the participants might be necessary for them to feel free in jamming. |

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4. Theatre improvisation

This event is a form of theatre where there are no boundaries between the actors and the audience. Actor can become the audience while the audience becomes the main stage. Everything is improvisational, hence the name of the activity. There is no script (rather the facilitator comes up with a theme or guidelines) and how everything goes depends solely on the audience and the actors. No acting talent is required and this event can take up to 3 hours.

Rationale: Theatre is a great way to escape reality for a couple of hours and immerse oneself in another person's story.

Aim: gather refugees and locals for a play, where they can express themselves through acting. More importantly, everyone involved would get better understanding of one another.

What to know for organisers: a facilitator needs to be chosen, as well as the venue.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| can be held both inside & outside (if weather allows). | 10-20 | bond between the participants might be necessary for them to feel free in improvising. |

4. Theatre improvisation

Perfect environment – open youth centre

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5. Dance evening

Lindy hop, Pop music, Jazz, Traditional songs. These are just a couple of styles people like to dance to. This event would invite both refugees and locals to share their moves as a solo, pair or group dances. The duration could be up to 2 or more hours.

Rationale: dancing not only unites, but is also a way to relax and enjoy.

Aim: to gather refugees and locals for a relaxing evening with music and dances, where they can bond together.

What to know for organisers: Music style needs to be picked out, which could be easy to dance to for both locals and refugees. A suitable venue needs to be chosen (i.e. with a sound system). Organiser could prepare something for the start (e.g. a lesson on some dance moves), in case the participants are shy at the beginning.

(TIP) organisers of similar events could be approached for easier implementation.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|---|----------------------------------|--|
| can be held both inside & outside (if weather allows). Perfect environment – cultural centre | 10-30 | bond between the participants might be necessary for them to feel free in dancing; sound equipment is necessary |

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6. Theatre of the oppressed

It is a form of theatre, where social issues are played out by the actors. After a play, the audience can ask questions (through a facilitator or directly) about behaviour or thoughts of the actors during the play (e.g. "why did you tell her X?", "did you do that, because X?"). After the questioning, the audience chooses, what person is the oppressed and who is the oppressor.

Afterwards, the play is repeated, but now someone from the audience can change places with any of the actors, apart from the oppressor (when the volunteer claps his hands, everyone freeze and he must say which person he wants to switch places with). Play can be repeated once or more and switching places can be done as many times

6. Theatre of the oppressed

as wanted. After each play facilitator holds a discussion about the outcome and how it was reached.

Main topics for the plays are relevant social problems that reflect everyday life for some people. People don't play themselves, but the situations and outcomes for some are reality. This activity can take up to 2 hours.

Rationale: "what if I said a different word?", "What if I acted differently?" – these are the questions, people constantly ask themselves. Although time cannot be rewound, in the theatre of the oppressed, participants can have a chance to direct how the play ends.

Aim: raise awareness of social problems; show how different actions have different outcomes and their magnitude.

What to know for organisers: a facilitator needs to be picked, as well as the venue. The organisers / youth workers could show an example and be first volunteer, if the audience is shy.

(TIP) a theatre or an acting class could be approached for (technical) support and/or actors (if needed).

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|---|---------------------------|---|
| can be held both inside & outside (if weather allows). Perfect environment – cultural centre | 10-30 | bond between the participants might be necessary for them to feel free in acting; |

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Sports activities

1. Sports "Olympics" event

Event, where locals and refugees engage in different sports. Throughout the day, there could be different competitions for football, basketball and others. For those who like less active sports, a "proactive zone" could be made. Here the participants could spend their time playing darts, chess, checkers, etc. The event itself would take 3-4 hours depending on the wishes and the number of the participants.

Rationale: sports is one of the best ways to bond with other people and the joy of making that goal or making a good pass is indescribable. With such event, both refugees and locals could team up and show the society that they can do things together.

1. Sports “Olympics” event

Aim: gather refugees and locals for a team bonding experience.

What to know for organisers: a survey should be done on what kind of sport competitions are relevant/in demand; In advance prepare proactive sports (chess, darts) equipment. Referees and a first aid kit are needed as well.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| sports centre (inside or outside) | from 15 to 40 | great for getting to know each other; various sports equipment required |

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2. Colour run

This athletic event invites people to do a 5 KM run with harmless food colouring thrown at the start and the finish line. It is a fun initiative for all ages and can be used to raise awareness to social and health problems.

(TIP) Events as such are done in most of the bigger cities around the globe. The organisers could be approached to include a group of refugees as participants free of charge. In Vilnius, Lithuania Colour run takes place every September.

Aim: spend fun & meaningful time together, as well as exercise in the process. Can be used to raise awareness too.

What to know for organisers: prepare T-shirts to display your social message, etc. Make water available to participants.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| park / other outside venue | from 10 to as many as possible | water should be made available |

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3. Hiking

Hiking in a good weather is a sure way to relax and connect with your neighbour as you take a long walk in the nature. Here, refugees and locals can team up and take these walks as a form of exercise and to socialize.

Aim: spend meaningful time in the nature, as well as exercise in the process.

3. Hiking

What to know for organisers: prepare a first-aid kit. Have plenty of drinks and snacks/lunch (picnic can be held if hiking for longer). Check the weather forecast and choose a path in advance. Walking sticks can be given to those, who get tired faster. Having a youth worker / animator, who can sing hiking songs (or encourage others), would make the event more enjoyable still.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| forest / park / nature | from 5 to 30 | water should be made available; check weather forecast in advance |

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4. Meditation

People would be invited to experience / try and learn about meditation in a youth centre or in the open (if the weather allows). Such session could take from 30 minutes to 1 hour (depending whether there are some pre- and post-meditation activities / talks).

Rationale: The term *meditation* refers to a broad variety of practices that include techniques designed to promote relaxation, build internal energy and develop compassion, love, patience, generosity, and forgiveness. These are good societal habits needed in every community.

Aim: meditation would allow the participants to relax and reflect on their time together & (for refugees) in their new home.

What to know for organisers: a quiet place with a lot of space to lie down is needed. Make sure there are pillows / mats / blankets on the floor (so meditation is comfortable). Relaxing music can be played, light sources should be dimmed and incense could be lit (if possible). It is recommended not to start right away, but let people to get used to the environment. After the meditation, there can be time to talk/reflect.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| youth centre, park / other outside venue (if the weather allows) | from 10 to 30 | some bond might be needed for the participants to feel sufficiently relaxed; It must be a quiet place without distractions |

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Sightseeing & public activities

1. Trips around local wildlife or tourist sights

Straightforward sightseeing for refugees and willing locals. This experience might lead the participants to not only spend their time meaningfully, but also to foster their links to the country.

Aim: show refugees and locals the beauty of their (new) home, as well as its culture/wildlife.

What to know for organisers: If possible, contact local tour guides to make a free tour for this event. A cycle of touring events could be organized, if there is a demand from the participants. The tours themselves could be divided into theme ("city from another angle", "Wildlife of Vilnius", etc.). An animator could be hired to facilitate games/energisers while on the coach (if any), etc.

(Good example) well organised sightseeing trip for refugees in Vilnius, Lithuania:
<https://www.facebook.com/events/1156371134444028/>

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|----------------|---------------------------|---|
| sightseeing | from 10 to 30 | maps, tourist/walk-guide required; great activity to get to know one another |

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2. Public initiative akin "Let's Do It, World"

Gather a team of refugees and locals, who would together clean up a local area and show an example to the society.

Aim: do some good locally, spend meaningful time, as well as get a positive reaction from media on refugees.

What to know for organisers: choose an area(s) in advance (check with the local municipality if unsure). Similarly, make sure to provide participants with trash bags & special gloves (and anything else that might be necessary). During the initiative make a promo video, showcasing cooperation of refugees and locals.

Tip: join a yearly social initiative called "Let's Do it, World" ("Darom" in Lithuania) that take places in the end of April. It invites people to go out and gather up trash from streets, parks, etc.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|----------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | | |

2. Public initiative akin “Let’s Do It, World”

| | | |
|--------------|-------|---|
| park, nature | 10-40 | health precautions must be considered; certain equipment (gloves, etc.) is needed |
|--------------|-------|---|

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3. Picnic in the city

Event, where members of the community (both locals and refugees) gather and have a picnic in an open space. This promotes social integrations as people from different backgrounds gather to dine and chat. Event itself can take about 1-2 hours.

Rationale: People like to have picnic and it's a great bonding experience. But often there are only couples or a family of 3-4 people, who do that. Yet, it works well with bigger groups of people too.

Aim: allow the refugees and locals to bond, have fun and discover new dishes and/or traditions.

What to know for organisers: a decision needs to be made on whether let refugees and locals use an open kitchen (if any) to make their food, or to prepare it in advance. Blankets and plastic/paper dishes & disposable cutlery are needed as well. A careful look at the weather forecast is also advisable (rainy day might ruin the experience).

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|---|---------------------------|--|
| park, open youth centres, refugee cultural centre | from 5 to 20 | some bond between the participants might be necessary for the activity |

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4. Orienteering games (City game)

Event, where participants are grouped into small mixed teams of locals and refugees (4-8 members) and given a task to decipher the hidden message. Clues are scattered around the city and teams need to find the locations of the clues by provided coordinates or riddles. These locations are “check points”, where a task awaits to be solved by a team. After finding all the clues, message should be deciphered and the answer presented to the organisers. Fastest team to decipher the code wins. This event can take anywhere from 45 minutes up to 2 hours depending on the “check points”

Aim: gather locals and refugees for a team bonding experience; give them an opportunity to get to know their city better.

4. Orienteering games (City game)

What to know for the organisers: a list of interesting city spaces and tasks/riddles need to be prepared. A system for additional points could be introduced (i.e. extra points for getting to know each other). More importantly, the activity must be carried out safely – that is the participants need to be informed on all the required precautions (as well as given reflectors / safety jackets, if it's getting dark). It is recommended to confine the city game to pedestrian zones & parks or an area with low car congestion.

(TIP) Asociacija "Aktyvus jaunimas" has been organising city games in Kaunas, Lithuania and could share the template (ideas) for the activity. Email for inquiries – info@activeyouth.lt

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Recommended: pedestrian areas & parks | 20-40 | good for bonding safety needs to be ensured |

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5. "Refugees Welcome" support activity

This is a social initiative where youth (both locals and refugees) would go through the local cafeterias with printed badges supporting openness (e.g. "Everyone's Welcome"). These will be handed-out to the owners or the staff to be glued on/by the entrance.

Rationale: even though there are many people, who deeply support diversity / multiculturalism, they tend not to show that (or do that less loud than people against it). The badge/sticker would be their silent way of expressing their position, as well to raise social awareness in general.

Aim: to show support for refugees and enlist local businessmen also. Gain publicity for the cause.

What to know for organisers: to cover as many businesses as possible, prepare routes for volunteer groups in advance (it might be advisable to skip venues for various adult entertainment). Document (takes pictures, film) the process, as well as interview the businessmen, who put the sticker/badge on their doors. Make sure it's safe for volunteers/participants (i.e. avoid potentially dangerous establishments; give out reflectors/safety vests, if it is getting dark).

(TIP) Asociacija "Aktyvus jaunimas" is creating an "Everyone's Welcome" badge/sticker. Its templates for printing (and ideas of usage) will be available to everyone by the end of 2017. Contact for inquiries: info@activeyouth.lt

5. "Refugees Welcome" support activity

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|---|------------------------------------|--|
| cafeterias, restaurants, hairdressing saloons, pubs, etc. | 3-5 people per group of volunteers | make sure it's safe for every volunteer; prepare to document the process (take photos, interviews, etc.) |

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6. Bike excursion

Event that serves as an exciting way to tour the country (or a park) together. It can be combined with a picnic, etc. and might take up to 3-4 hours.

Rationale: biking is fun and healthy way to spend one's time. For refugees, it also allows to get to know their surroundings better.

Aim: to gather locals and refugees and show them the country / park in the area. It not only serves as bonding experience, but also as exercise.

What to know for organisers: biking distance and course needs to be chosen in advance. It should not be too demanding to make it doable for everyone. Also, bike-renting must be available, as not everyone will have their own bike. Maximum precautions must be taken, such as: 1) route low on car traffic; 2) helmets for the participants; 2) first-aid kit; 3) reflectors/safety vests for the participants, if getting dark.

(Tip) Check with bike rentals, if they can support the initiative by providing bikes/helmets free of charge.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| park, countryside, biking trail, etc. | 10-20 | bicycles, safety equipment |

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7. Camping

Refugee and local families could gather together to enjoy the wildlife with games, activities, fruit gathering, etc. This event can be held in regional parks or forests (or even inside – without fire, however) and could take from 3 hours, up to 2 days.

Aim: to gather families for bonding and socializing experience, to show the natural beauty of the country.

7. Camping

What to know for organisers (if camping in the open): parks / forest spots and activities needs to be chosen in advance. Things that are necessary: camping equipment (tents, sleeping bags, sleeping mats, matches, pots/grill, etc.), food & beverages. Lastly, maximum precautions must be taken, such as: 1) first-aid kit; 2) reflectors/safety vests for the participants, if getting dark & a road is nearby; 3) battery to charge a phone for emergency calls; 4) something to protect from rain (if local weather is predictably unpredictable).

(TIP) Active Youth is engaged in several youth camps and their methodologies can be improved to cater for camping for all

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| natural park, camping site, open youth centre (for inside camping) | 15-30 people | camping equipment, safety measures, food & beverages are necessary; some bond between the participants is necessary to take part in the activity |

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Talents & crafts

1. Workshops for handcrafts

This is an event, where both locals and refugees get to show their skills and crafts (e.g. beads, dreamcatchers or whatever they are good at making). Everyone is invited to participate in trying to make simple beads or any other traditional item. Such event could take up to 4 hours.

Rationale: not a lot people know how to make simple, yet colourful and unique beads, dreamcatcher, etc. This even would be intended to invite all people to come and try making their own unique traditional items with the help of a refugee or a local. After all, making something together is a wonderful bonding experience.

Aim: gather people for an intercultural event, where everyone could learn something new.

What to know for organisers: venue with all the equipment / tools and material needs to be prepared in advance, as well as a list of craftsmen, willing to show their craft.

(TIP for Lithuania) "M. Mažvydas" national library is planned to have a 'makers space' among its venues.

1. Workshops for handcrafts

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Makers' spaces, open youth centres | 15-30 | great way to bond special equipment might be necessary |

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2. Traditional cooking workshop

Event, where both locals and refugees get together and teach each other their traditional or home cuisines in a non-formal environment. Depending on the amount of people and if meals are prepared on the spot or in advance, the event can take up to 2 hours.

Rationale: there are millions of different dishes around the world. Eastern and western cuisines are very different and with this event, we want people to have a taste of both. Furthermore, dining together is truly a great way to form friendships.

Aim: to bond the community while cooking & eating together. Teach various dishes/recipes to each other.

What to know for organisers: If meals are going to be cooked on the spot, there should be a kitchen. Also make sure to have enough plates, cutlery for everyone (preferably, disposable). Finally, clean up (together) after the event.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|----------------------------------|---|
| makers' spaces, open youth centres (kitchen might be required) | 15-30 | great way to bond special equipment might be necessary |

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3. Henna tattoo celebration

In this activity, locals and refugees would get together to celebrate their union as a single community and they would commemorate it by drawing temporal or washable henna tattoos of peace and oneness on each other.

Rationale: henna tattoo is an old art that was done to celebrate important days in one's life.

3. Henna tattoo celebration

Aim: for locals and refugees to get together, celebrate and learn how to do henna tattoos.

What to know for organisers: henna tattoo expert might be necessary to teach the participants of the workshop/celebration how to ink properly. Similarly, special ink and pencils will be necessary (make sure everyone has enough). A theme could be given for drawing (e.g. celebrating the community), yet foremost participants' creativity should be encouraged.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| open youth centres, cultural centre, outside venue (if weather allows) | 10-30 | special ink is required and a participation of an expert might be necessary |

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4. Drawing / painting

Event for everyone to let their imagination roam free and express their feelings and thoughts through drawing/painting in a relaxing environment. Event could take up to 3 hours, with the guest artist invited to give some insights or techniques on creating art.

Rationale: art is both relaxing and fun activity. It's even more fun, if done with more people and on bigger scale. That is what we want to achieve with this event: gather locals and refugees together for a fun painting session, where they can collaborate to create a piece of art, which later could be shown in a public venue or a gallery.

Aim: gather locals and refugees for a fun painting session, where they can create art together.

(TIP) Refugee painter(s)/artist(s) could be invited to join & share their techniques / experience with others.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| open youth centres, cultural centre, outside venue (if weather allows) | 10-30 | great for building-up a bond; special equipment (brushes, etc.) required |

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5. Building kites

Building and flying a kite is an activity that can be enjoyed by all. Making and testing the kites could take up to 3 hours, depending on the number of the participants. The whole process is a perfect bonding experience: at first you craft kites & afterwards, fly those together in a good weather.

Aim: to gather locals and refugees for relaxing and fun activity and to teach them how to make & fly simple kites.

What to know for organisers: Materials and venue for kite making is necessary. An expert can be approached to help with the workshop. Weather reports need to be constantly checked to make sure, that event could be held without any disturbances.

(TIP for Lithuania) There is a kite festival in Lithuania. The organisers can be approached and help with the workshop or have it as a part of their wider event. Festival's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/aitvarufestivalis/>

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| any big open green space (park, field) | 10-25 | great for building-up a bond; kite building materials are necessary; weather required: not rainy & not too windy (but not without wind either) |

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Education & practical activities

1. Discussion evenings (World café)

Event, where locals and refugees are welcome to discuss relevant social issues (i.e. hospitality of people, economics, travel, education, etc.) in a relaxing (café) environment.

Rationale: everyday there are hundreds of articles about social, economic and many other problems. Yet there are many faces to each one of it. With this event, we want to invite all people to participate in non-formal and panel discussions on different topics, that are interesting and relevant to today's society. The discussions could be had anywhere from 45 minutes up to 2 hours.

Aim: to let the voice of refugees and locals be heard on relevant issues.

What to know for organisers: it is recommended to survey the refugees on the topics that are interesting to them beforehand. Concept of the discussion needs to be finalized

1. Discussion evenings (World café)

(is it a non-formal discussion, where everyone can participate, or is it a panel discussion, where the guests tell their experience/thoughts on the issue and audience can ask questions/comment). Discussions could be live streamed online to get a broader reach and questions can be asked online as well. There is a need for a moderator (youth worker or anyone with experience/motivation). Having some free beverages for the participants can also make the event a better experience

(TIP) There possibly are local events, where people discuss cultural or political issues already. Joining those could be an option.

In Lithuania, there is an event, where youth are invited to join discussions on relevant topics: (<https://www.facebook.com/events/1849016118677422/>)

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| cafes, open youth centres, libraries, etc. | 15-30 | |

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2. Language games

Event, where both locals and refugees get a chance to learn and to teach the basics of the languages they know through games and activities. Everyone, willing to try to learn something new is welcome. This event can take up to 2 hours.

Rationale: language games are an opportunity to learn new languages (or get better at ones you know) and cultures through a relaxing mingle. It is also an opportunity to make others happy by teaching them one's language.

Aim: create a bond between refugees and locals, reduce the language barrier between them.

What to know for organisers: have some form for interaction (games) prepared. That might be essential for a smooth start, as people are usually shy at first. Make sure soft beverages/snacks are available for participants. This helps to make the environment less formal.

(TIP) ESN (Erasmus Student Network) is known for language games/evenings so you can take up their guidelines and/or join their events.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| cafes, open youth centres, libraries, etc. | 10-20 (even number) | good way to bond |

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3. Experience sharing with volunteers from refugee camps/ refugee themselves

Discussion/presentation in a free form, where refugees and/or volunteers get to share their experience with others (audience). Event itself can take up to 2 hours.

Aim: to raise awareness in the community.

What to know for organisers: such event should be promoted and a venue should be prepared (enough chairs, projector/sound system (if needed) & beverages/snacks for the speakers, etc.). Naturally, speakers must be approached long before, so that they can find the time. It can also be documented (or broadcasted live) to expand the reach.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| open youth centre, library, café, etc. | 15-30 | start preparing well in advance (find speakers, etc.) |

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Entertainment & fun activities

1. LARP (Live Action Role Play)

LARP is a form of role-playing game where the participants physically act out their characters' actions. The players pursue goals within a fictional setting while interacting with each other (in their created characters). Depending on the chosen setting, LARP might take up to 4 hours.

Rationale: king, astronaut, samurai, vampire hunter. These are just ones of many roles participants can become in LARP. This game let's people's imagination roam free and think of scenario for their role themselves. Its interactive and fun way to experience what it is like to be in another's shoes.

Aim: to gather locals and refugees and give them an opportunity to 1) to express themselves through theatre; 2) have fun; and 3) get better understanding of each other.

What to know for organisers: a facilitator, who is familiar with the concept needs to be found. Venue with all needed equipment and tools needs to be prepared. As well as settings, which should be played out (fictional setting, e.g. vampire hunting in 1600; or a real-life setting).

1. LARP (Live Action Role Play)

(TIP) Look up the concept online (to find sample settings).

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Open youth centres | 6-15 | Some bond might be required among the participants to freely role play; Facilitator with experience is recommended |

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2. Pop quiz (pub quiz)

Event for everyone who like to challenge their mind with interesting, fun and unique questions. Teams of refugees and locals would need to be formed in a race to answer correctly as many questions as possible. The topics can involve music, movies, art, geography, science and anything of interest. This event can take from 1 to 2 hours.

Rationale: teams answering challenging questions are a great way to bond and spend fun, meaningful time together.

Aim: to gather both locals and refugees in relaxing environment to socialize, bond and learn some random, but useful facts or stories.

What to know for organisers: Pub/pop quizzes can be made more engaging if they have more than two parts, i.e. guessing the song and questions with pictures. Special equipment (speakers, projector) could be necessary depending on the types of questions. Optimal team size is usually from 4 to 6 people.

(TIP) Organisers of official pub/pop quizzes could be approached for advices or outsourcing the event.

Asociacija "Aktyvus jaunimas" has been organising pub/pop quizzes for youth and could share the template (ideas) for the activity. Contact or inquiries – info@activeyouth.lt

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| open youth centre, café, pub | 24-36 (teams of 4-6) | projector & speakers might be necessary |

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3. Karaoke

It is not every day that people get to enjoy some traditional or pop music singalong with 10+ people. This event invites all, who love to sing, hum or make sounds to come and show their skills in this karaoke event, which takes from 1.5 to 3 hours. There are no skills of singing required.

Aim: gather locals and refugees for a relaxing event, where they get to sing, bond and socialize

What to know for organisers: prepare and check the required equipment (mic, speakers) in advance, if the event is held in not a specialised venue. It will also be necessary to get/download a list of music (community can be asked to give ideas for songs). At the start of the event, a queue of singers can be made. This will allow braver ones to go first and other to get their place somewhat further in the line.

(TIP for Vilnius, Lithuania) Check with karaoke club "Sing karaokės namai", if they can host such event.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| open youth centre, specialised venue, pub | 8-15 | special equipment (mic, speakers, etc.) |

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4. Water balloon fight

Event that invites people to take a break from a daily summer routine and remember childhood days and cool off in a water balloon fight. This event can take up to 1 hour, but it could be prolonged with addition of various competitions (involving balloons & water), etc.

Rationale: Summer is hot and it's not easy to find a way to cool off. Water balloon fight is fun and easy way to chill for any number of locals and refugees. It is a bonding experience as well, since you should work as a team to make the others wet.

Aim: To gather refugees and locals for a socializing and relaxing event.

What to know for organisers: Park or any other big open area needs to be chosen. The venue must have a source of water to fill up water balloons. Don't forget to get a couple of hundreds of balloons (or ask participants to do that) for the event & to clean up later (preferably, all together)!

4. Water balloon fight

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| parks, open areas with water access | 10+ | lots of balloons + access to water will be needed; make sure everyone is participating voluntarily |

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5. Escape room

This is an activity where locals and refugees team up in groups of 4-6 and collaborate to solve the puzzle and escape a locked room. It is possible to create your own fun mobile escape room or go to an existing specialised one (note: these are most of the time paid).

Rationale: Escape room – a trending phenomenon, where a team of 4-6 people are locked up in a room with puzzles and riddles. This is a team based challenging experience with lots of potential fun.

Aim: gather locals and refugees for a fun team building experience.

What to know for organisers: if creating your own escape room, a theme for it could be asked in a poll beforehand. It is a must to make sure it is a safe experience too.

(TIP) most cities and towns have existing escape rooms, that could be approached to support the event and give free entry, etc.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| specialised/designated room | 6-20 | make sure it is a safe experience |

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6. Table top evening

Event, where both locals and refugees could enjoy their evening with a cup of their favourite drink playing Jenga, Monopoly, checkers or any other table top game. Amount of the time required could be anywhere from 2 to 8 hours, depending on what games (and how many of those) are chosen.

6. Table top evening

Rationale: there are thousands of different table top games. Some of them require teamwork, but all of them are fun and require participants to socialise. That is the purpose of this event – a fun evening together (or any other time of the day).

What to know for organisers: read through the rules of the chosen games so they could be explained to people who have never played them before. Games need to be looked at in advance, because there are some, that require a lot of spoken language and some of the games might be offensive, etc. Make sure there are cups, beverages and snacks at hand.

(TIP for Lithuania) "Rlkis" or "Hobbyshop" could be approached to provide table top games for the occasion.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| open youth centres, cafes | 10-25 | table top games are required; great way to bond |

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7. Movie night

Event for participants to delve into the world of cinema and have a relaxing and fun evening watching a movie or two. It would also serve as a gathering for both refugees and locals where they socialise while the movie goes on. Duration of the event depends on the chosen movie and if discussion will follow.

Aim: to gather refugees and locals for a relaxing evening to have fun together.

What to know for organisers: poll can be done to ask online, what kind of movie participants would like to watch. However, the organisers should have in mind that participants might have difficulties understanding, if a movie with a lot of dialogue is chosen (subtitled movie is advisable). Depending on the movie, a discussion could be held afterwards.

(Tip) Netflix has a massive online movie library (internet connection will be required). Although, subscription is paid.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|--|
| open youth centres, designated outside venue (if weather allows) | 15-30 | speakers, projector (or a big TV) are required; internet might be necessary if streaming |

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8. Traditional games

Both locals and refugees can teach each other traditional games of their cultures. Games of any form, be it board games or field games are welcome in this event. This event can take up to 2 hours, depending on the amount of the games and the time they take.

Rationale: Every culture has its traditional game, which kids and adults play when they are bored. This event would help to share that with others.

Aim: have fun time learning new cultural games and foster bonding in the community.

What to know for organisers: organisers need to have some games (energisers) prepared in advance, if participants are afraid to start at first. An animator or a youth worker would have no problems in doing that. Some games require movement, thus make sure everyone comes with designated clothing.

(TIP) for fun games/energisers consult - <http://activeyouth.lt/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/100-ways-to-energise-groups.pdf>

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| open youth centres, cultural centre, outside venue (if weather allows) | 15-25 | sports/comfortable clothing might be required |

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9. Video games night

Event inviting refugees and locals to gather and play video games. These could be both for fun, as well competitive with prizes at the end. The goal is getting to know each other. No special skills or language is required to have fun mashing the buttons of controller and that makes it a great socializing and fun experience, which creates long lasting relationships.

Aim: gather refugees and locals for a fun and non-demanding socializing event with games and competitions.

What to know for organisers: special equipment will be needed: 1) gaming console (X-Box, PlayStation or Nintendo); 2) projector or a big TV; 3) 2 or more joysticks for multiplayer; 4) Kinect or other movement scanning technology (optional); 5) virtual

9. Video games night

reality set/googles (optional). Make sure the atmosphere is laid back (to avoid passions getting too high) and beverages/snacks are at hand.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---|
| open youth centres | 6-20 | good for bonding; lots of special equipment are needed |

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10. Photo taking competition

Event, during which participants (individually or in teams) get some keywords (e.g. cool culture, dreamy dance) and should take photos representing those. Limited time is given and afterwards, the best shots are displayed and the community chooses the winner.

Rationale: a lot of beauty goes unnoticed by local people, walking through the streets. There are some things, that only an eye of the photographer sees and we want to show to public those moments. We want to invite both locals and refugees, who are interested in photo making and give them a venue to showcase their creations.

Aim: create a platform and opportunity for locals and refugees to employ their creativity, see their surroundings from the best angle and show their photo creations.

What to know for organisers: make sure photos can be printed or otherwise shown (e.g. on a big screen) for the community. Ensure safety: 1) hold competition in a pedestrian area or a park; 2) hand out reflectors / safety vests (if getting dark); 3) inform about possible risks & hazards. Prepare for voting – create a survey online or have voting tickets prepared. Lastly, it is advisable to have a short workshop before the competition on how to take and edit photos.

(TIP) encourage team participation!

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| parks, pedestrian zones, low traffic areas | 10-30 | |

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Other activities

1. Arab Culture Week

This is a week to celebrate diversity among Arabs and impressive culture. Events like fashion show, Arab kitchen contest, music night, dance/cultural night, social talks and a whole lot more could be held.

Aim: The week would create an avenue for the locals to connect and better understand Arabs first-hand and not through media.

What to know for organisers: such series of events could be demanding resource-wise, thus cooperating with other relevant organisations is recommended. Moreover, there might be Arab Culture Weeks taking place already in your country. In that case organisers can be approached and your activities could become a part of the wider event. In any case, the main idea should not be lost: the week is for the public. This means that dissemination and communication should be planned well in advance.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|---|---------------------------|--|
| youth / cultural centres, outside venues, public spaces, etc. | - | requires a lot of resources to implement; special equipment might be needed for some of the activities |

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2. Cooking fest – “Setting a World record”

Event, where the community gathers together to prepare food collectively and dine as a ‘family’. It could be made a fun & team-building experience, if participants were aiming to set ‘world records’ by baking e.g. the longest bread, or cooking the biggest pot of rice / soup. Event, depending on the records want to be set, can take up to 3 hours.

Rationale: food is fun and everyone enjoys eating it. Why not try to break a world record while doing it? This event is for everyone, who enjoys food and wants to have an opportunity to get to know local and foreign culture better, while possibly making a mark in a “world record” history.

Aim: to gather locals and refugees for a socializing food fest. To show public the richness of various (food) cultures & get positive publicity.

What to know for organisers: a venue with kitchen/cooking facilities will be necessary. Having that in mind, safety precautions must be taken too: 1) first-aid kit; 2) fire extinguisher at hand, etc. Since the event is for the public, dissemination and

2. Cooking fest – “Setting a World record”

communication must be carefully planned. Also, disposable cutlery and plates/bowls must be provided for.

(TIP) Sponsors could be approached to support the event. For instance, if the biggest pita bread is being baked, perhaps bread makers could be interested. One way to get them onboard is to sell the name of the event (i.e. “Bread maker’s” Pita bread World record fest).

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|---|---------------------------|--|
| inside / outside venues with access to kitchen / cooking facilities | 15 - 40 | good bonding experience special equipment (for cooking), disposable plates/cutlery required |

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3. Maltese Soup event

Event, where traditional soups are made by the community (of refugees & local youth) and then bowls given to public. Public can donate to the vendors and the money goes to specific social initiatives.

Aim: to get public attention on social actions they can donate to and, in general, to raise social awareness. It would also put the refugee community in the positive light.

What to know for organisers: prepare enough disposable spoons/bowls.

(TIP) Contact the “Maltese” organisation to get their (technical) support or to become part of their event.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| inside / outside public venue | 6-20 | special equipment, disposable bowls/spoons required |

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4. Instagram photo exhibition

This event would exhibit refugees’ Instagram photos to the community. The idea is to show they feel in and see their new home. Such exhibition would be held in a public space / gallery for the locals to see themselves through the eyes of others.

4. Instagram photo exhibition

Rationale: “we believe what we see”. With this event, locals will be able to see their streets and environment through the eyes of refugee. It's a great way to see, what kind of experience and stories refugees carry in their photos.

Aim: promote refugees' photography works, share their stories and experiences with the public. Get public attention / raise awareness of certain problems faced by the refugee community.

What to know for organisers: first, consent from the participants must be acquired. It is recommended that the photos used for the exhibition are those taken prior to such agreement (as knowing that they are going to be used for public might distort the feeling/experience of the pictures). In any case, the main idea should not be lost: the week is for the public. This means that dissemination and communication should be planned well in advance.

For the exhibition: Instagram photos can be simply enlarged and put on canvas (without removing the interface, i.e. comments, likes, description). This way the picture would tell more of the photographer's story.

(TIP) Donations could be collected (works sold) and then the money spent on other integration activities. Galleries can be approached to support the project and provide it with suitable venue.

| Required venue | Recommended no. of people | Additional comments/requirements |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| public spaces, galleries | - | consent is required |

[Click to jump back to Summary of activities](#)

The list (including the description of activities) is to be updated. For more suggestions, please contact us.

About authors

TRY is coordinated by Asociacija "Aktyvus jaunimas" (Lithuania) and is implemented together with: Brodoto d.o.o. (Croatia), Institute for Policy Research and Analysis (Lithuania), NGO „Integration Centre“ (Lithuania) and "Baltic Youth Way" (Latvia).

This publication is hence a product of cooperation between these organisations.

However, the main role is taken by Asociacija "Aktyvus jaunimas". It is a non-profit organization based in Kaunas, Lithuania that unites young leaders willing to work on a voluntary basis to facilitate an intercultural dialogue and enhance competence of the European youth.



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