

# 2019 ANNUAL REPORT



# **3** Forward Letter

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As we celebrate the 20th anniversary of Crossing Borders, I was inspired to write a love letter to the CB vision for the world.

So to the CB vision, I wish to say: Happy birthday and many happy returns in good health, love, respect and wider outreach. Your aim of bringing people from all walks of life, from all cultures, professions and generations to learn to live together on equal terms has never been more urgent than today. This is especially true when we consider the paradox the world finds itself in: humanity has never had so much access to instant information about ourselves. society, the world around us and especially about the fact that we have only one planet to live on and prosper, yet more and more individuals are suffering from confusion and insecurity about who they are, why they are here and how to connect with our families, society and planet on which we are all dependent and a part of.

It seems as if the more information we have access to, the less informed about our interdependency and interconnection with the rest of humanity we are, and the world we live in. Though humans have never had so much knowledge, it seems that our understanding of ourselves and our mutual connections is lagging. The unprecedented accumulation of wealth seems only to increase our greed and small mindedness. The huge advancement in telecommunication technologies and transportation systems and artificial intelligence has not helped us realize that our individual, sectarian and national wellbeing is interwoven with that of our fellow humans everywhere.

This confusion seems to have motivated the recent resurgence of super-nationalist, populist ideologies and ethno-centric short-term interests, anti-migration to the point that rescuing drowning asylum seekers has become a crime in certain quarters, trade wars and barriers, withdrawal from and disregard for international conventions, organisations and disarmament treaties, combined with increased spending on military and robotic weapons, closing down of international programmes in various universities and visa discrimination that hinders student mobility across countries.

Therefore, I would like to thank you, the CB team for making it possible for so many people, especially youth, to access valuable information directly from one another without filters. This is the kind of information and knowledge that cannot be downloaded or airdropped from one device to another.

However, this love letter is especially meant for the people who are behind and making the CB idea come true every day across the globe. Here, I am referring to the CB team who is living and sharing the values of CB everyday globally. Locally, CB is based in the very heart of beautiful Copenhagen in the global space of the Ubuntu House. Having the Ubuntu House with the Legend Jacob Holdt as its generous host does resonate with the principles of Ubuntu. According to the life philosophy of Ubuntu, humans are only humans in and through the eyes of other fellow humans. In sum: we are, therefore, I am. Comprised of around 25 youth from 20 countries in Africa, Asia, North and South America and Europe, the team strives to live up to the values and principles of Ubuntu.



These values are reflected in the CB working environment, according to which colleagues are free to come to the office when it fits them. work in the office as long as they wish, work from home or from the library or while in flights or on trains. This flexibility derives from mutual trust and respect that people are free at work and work when they are free. People can take off on Monday and work during the weekends. From CB's point of view, freedom breeds responsibility and mutual trust generates inspiration. The diversity of the team in all aspects, makes CB a fertile space for new ideas, projects, initiatives and events. Thanks to this acknowledgement of and appreciation of diversity, the CB team develops, designs and carries out many local activities and events such as Food for Thought, Green Christmas, Innovation cups, Ubuntu Talks, workshops, conferences and seminars. The team also works with CB projects in different countries from Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine in Caucasus, and Ghana, Sierra Leone, Uganda and Zimbabwe in Africa



The team is, moreover, leading or is involved in more than 16 projects across Europe from Portugal to Finland, Poland to the UK. In all these projects, we make sure to base our work on partnership and solidarity with local project ownership. This is because CB projects are partnership initiatives governed by mutual respect and equal relations.

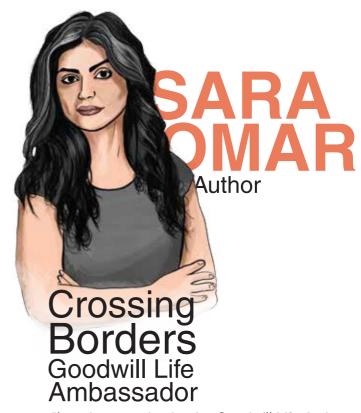
Thanks to your foresight and hard work, the four CB programmes of school services, international projects, global studies and local events do create spaces for active citizenship and local empowerment. I was humbled to see some of these programmes in action recently in Armenia, Moldova and the Faroe Islands. It was also amazing to have a prison education expert Ron Costa from New York, entrepreneur Céline Faty from Martinique, liberation theologist Edicio Dela Torre from the Philippines and Monk Ashin Khulndala (Monk Owen) from Myanmar all come to share their unique and inspiring stories at the CB Food for Thought events this year in Copenhagen. In this connection, the municipality of the Faroe Islands invited my wife Runa, an expert Sara Rodríguez from Spain and myself to share our perspectives on migration and integration through the CB Food for Thought concept in the city of Torshavn on the 10th of October, 2019.

Thus, this is the right opportunity to express my love, appreciation and respect for the CB team for creating spaces for different people to meet and share their best thinking, knowledge and experience toward mutual recognition, equality and solidarity. Thank you each and all, love and only love.



"My support of Crossing Borders is motivated by the fact that Crossing Borders' vision, mission, programmes and methods resonate with the principles of the African Philosophy of Ubuntu. According to Ubuntu, our humanity is mutually interdependent regardless of cultural, geographical and religious differences. Our motto is UNITY in DIVERSITY!"

This letter is also written for and in appreciation of Crossing Borders Patron H.E Ambassador Zindzi Mandela of South Africa and CB Goodwill Life Ambassador the Bestselling Author Sara Omar. I would like to take this opportunity to extend our thanks and gratitude for the moral support and solidarity from these two global icons of human rights.



"I am honoured to be the Goodwill Life Ambassador for Crossing Borders because what CB is doing, for the youth and the younger generation, is what I ask the rest of the world to do."

This letter is moreover written to the CB Board members for their precious time, energy and fresh ideas you offer through your ongoing support for the CB team and CB work. As the executive management board that is tasked with the legal and financial aspects of the organisation, your role is crucial. Thank you very much to all CB Board members for the understanding and ongoing guidance.

This letter is, furthermore, dedicated to the CB International Advisory Board of 22 members from Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Sweden and UK. Under the chairmanship of Mariano A. Davies, the Advisory Board deploys its rich knowledge, experiences and networks to identify strategic opportunities in order to advise and support Crossing Borders mission. Thank you very much to all CB Advisory Board members for taking time from your schedules to support CB.

This letter is also written to the CB National Coordinators around the world. The National Coordinators are in 50 countries across the globe, including some of the global giants like China, the US, Indonesia, Japan, and Germany, medium size countries like South Africa, Ghana, and the Maldives. CB associations in Lebanon, Myanmar, Pakistan and Uganda are also in my hearts. Many Thanks each and all for bringing and improving on the CB concept in your respective countries and regions.

The other very important group this letter is for are CB project partners both in Denmark and around the world. For CB to carry out its work, we need and rely on our collaborating partners' good will and solidarity. In Denmark, we work with municipalities, schools and educational associations and students. In our work abroad, we work in respectful and equal partnership with both civil society organisations and public institutions. I seize this occasion to express our thanks and gratitude to our many partners for the mutual support.

This letter is also for the funding partners, whose trust and generous support make it possible for CB to develop and implement projects around the world. In this context, I would like to highlight the vital support CB receives from the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs' civil society fund CISU. I also want to highlight the generous funding support of the EU Erasmus + Programme for their support of our European projects through the Danish National Agency. I also want to acknowledge and thank the Nordic Council and Anna Lindh Foundation for their support.

Finally, this letter is written for a vision of the future we want see, the world deserves, and people everywhere need and long for. Building on the experience and lessons learned during the CB journey of the past 20 years, CB has resolved to focus on the following strategic priorities:

### Taking stock of the experiences and lessons of the past 20 years

As part of the CB20 celebration, we are determined to build on the rich experience of the past 20 years of creating safe spaces for learning to live together and collaborate on equal terms. We will continue creating and expanding spaces for dialogue as we have seen the immediate and long-term benefits that people of all ages, creeds and professions gain through face to face meeting and collaboration. No matter how much we live online and connect and communicate virtually, we still need face to face meeting to share our realities, challenges and dreams for an ideal world we aspire to and crave for. Here, we can exchange respective interests, values, cultures, ideas and knowledge directly without media filters. In such spaces, one can get the chance to find and make our voices heard and skills tested in a safe and non/informal space.

Furthermore, we also intend to streamline and expand on our school services, international projects and local events as well as give more young people the opportunities to gain inter-cultural and work experiences in an international environment at the CB Headquarters and elsewhere. We will do our best to develop and implement more impactful and longer-term projects and activities to reach out to and benefit more youth, educators and media workers.

Building and looking into the near future

After 12 years of offering CB global studies at Krogerup Højskole, the school has decided to no longer accept international students. Though shocking and unexpected, closing the CB programme at Krogerup Højskole has opened many new doors. It has inspired us to develop a new concept to launch a CB International College (CB-IC) in Denmark. Planned to take off and run by autumn 2020, the CB-IC will be truly international in every sense of the word. It will offer both long and short international courses for international participants. The themes will focus on the current pressing global issues of our time and the methods will be youth centred, collaborative and nonformal.

Therefore, we have decided to take the next step in strengthening our contributions towards the realization of a more connected, peaceful, collaborative and inclusive world by launching Crossing Borders International College (CB-IC) in Denmark.

Hence, as mentioned above, the CB-IC is born out of the increasing needs for conducive spaces for people to meet, get to know one another, learn from each other and gain the opportunity to combine their best thinking and skills towards deepening their personal, intercultural and global citizenship. The new movements like the student climate strikes and Extinction Rebellion and Refugees Welcome are part of the positive reactions from the bottom to the negative trends from above.

As part of the new strategic priorities, we also want to launch African Youth Action Programme. In response to the desperation pushing African youth into deadly migration, slavery and youth to youth violence, and the recent violence in South Africa, it is more than urgent that African leaders take pro-active measures to reduce and eliminate the root causes of this tragedy. This tragedy is happening right in front of our eyes, while we are talking about Africa Rising! To turn this idea into action, Crossing Borders seeks the honest backing of African leaders and friends to launch a practical programme that facilitates real solutions.

In conclusion, I am very happy and humbled that in a matter of 20 years, CB has developed from a seminar to a project to a global organisation with many vital activities carried out by dedicated people from across the globe. I am also humbled that the team of Crossing Borders has expanded from one person to 25 employees, interns and volunteers. I am further grateful that the CB HQ moved location from an office in my house to a vibrant centre in Copenhagen. The same goes for the fact that CB projects have expanded from one to four programmes with 16 projects ongoing right now around the world. It is also with gratitude that we have H.E. Ambassador Zindzi Mandela, the daughter of the world's most famous icons of Freedom Mama Winnie Madizikela and Nelson Mandela. It is also with a sense of pride that CB has the bestselling Author of the Dead Washer novel Sara Omar, as our Goodwill Life Ambassador. Finally, we are grateful to operate and reach out to the world from the Ubuntu House, whose owner is the Danish Legend Jacob Holdt, who has dedicated his life to exposing and combating racism in our midst.

So, with continued help from you, our friends, we will be able to take CB to the next level of serving humanity by connecting more people from more places and empowering more youth to cross borders as they see fit.

Thank you for the time you took to read this long love letter from the bottom of my heart

I remain, always yours,

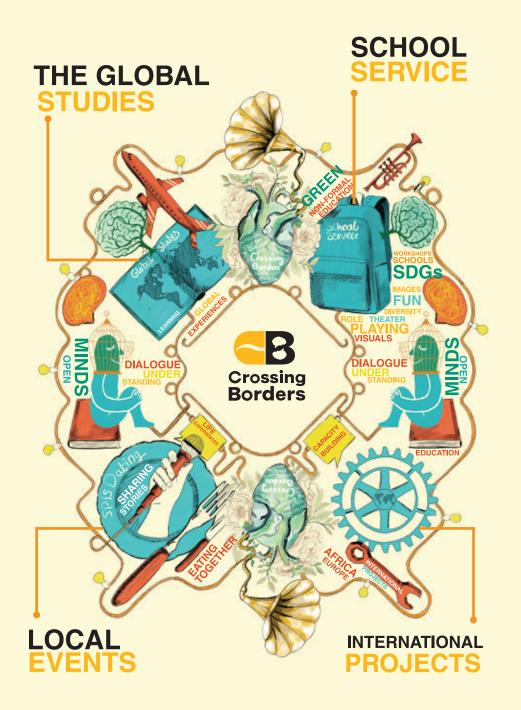
Garba Diallo

# A BIT ABOUT CROSSING BORDERS

Crossing Borders is a non-profit, civil society organization. Crossing Borders educates and empowers young people to become active global citizens.

Across cultures and professions, we provide platforms for young people to cross-fertilise ideas and form global associations, networks, and communities worldwide. In a learning environment where all participants are encouraged to grow and learn from one another, we enable youth to share their best ideas, best products, and best practices.

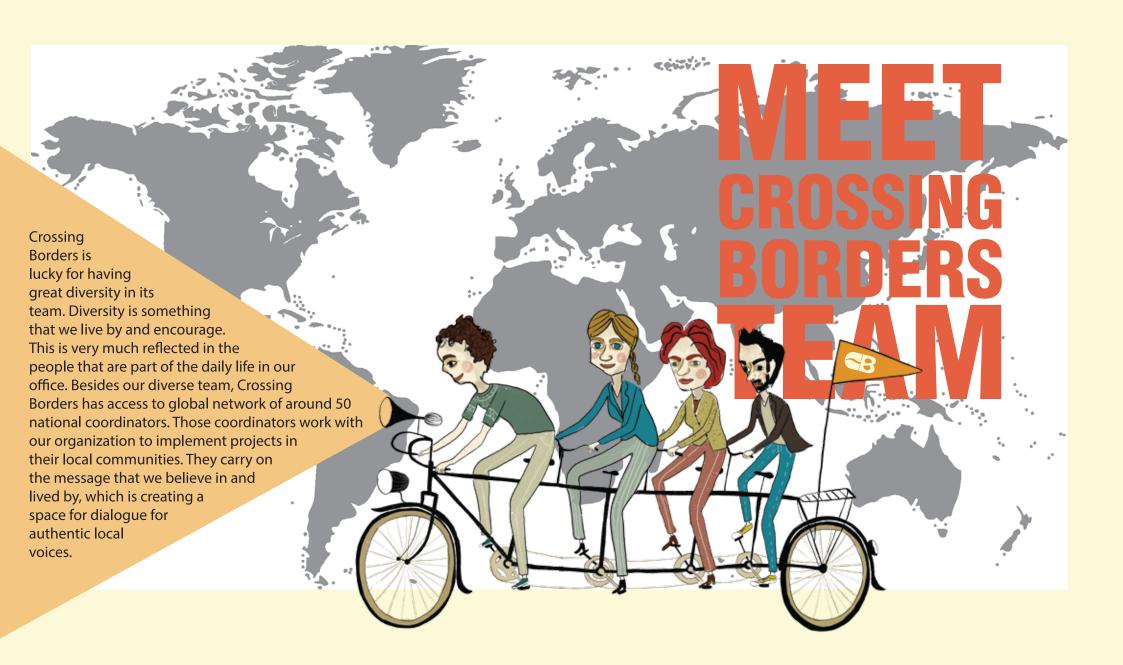
In 1999, Crossing Borders started out as a project to support dialogue in the Middle East and in 2004 it was registered as an NGO. The same year, Crossing Borders became an official partner with UNESCO. In 2013, Dr. Mariano A. Davies became Chairman of the Advisory Board and in 2016 the Danish Photographer and author of the American Picture Jacob Holdt joined the Advisory board too. In 2017 Crossing Borders moved to the center of Copenhagen. In the same year He. Ambassador Zindzi N. Mandela became the Patron of Crossing Borders. In 2019, the Danish-Kurdish Author Sara Omar became Life Ambassador of Crossing Borders.



Our mission is to educate global citizens and raise awareness of educators on global issues with the aim to contribute to build a peaceful and sustainable world. This is done by providing capacity building and space for youth to take action and create space for dialogue.

We believe in a world where young people see themselves and are seen by society as active global citizens whose human, civic and social rights are integrated and mainstreamed in the development policies of their home countries.





# TEAM FOR THE YEAR 21

Attracting more volunteers and interns has been greatly helped by Abuntu House, our HQ in the centre of Copenhagen. This is proving to be a great space for dialogue and has undoubtedly been a key ingredient in the continual development of our volunteer programme.

In 2019, we hosted many volunteers and interns. Both onsite and online, the Crossing Borders Office Team is made up of an incredibly diverse group of people. Their contribution to the development and implementation of projects is vital. The new members added new energy and more diversity.



Gabriela Kaplan USA



Cynthia Gichinga Kenya



Caroline Mwaciyaba Denmark



Yuka Fujii Japan



Andrew Bende Uganda



Garba Diallo Mauritania



Leah Strauss USA



Omar Al Sayed
Palestine/Lebanon



Pareeksha Chadaga India



Paul Denley UK

**Luna Valgaard** 

Denmark



Sulena Prajapati Nepal



Teena Maharjan Nepal



Marion Chen China



**Tatjana Bianca**Phillipines/Denmark



Marina Marin
Spain
Liaman Mamedova
Georgia



Ferhat Kaya Turkey



Erieda Hila Greece



Giselle De Luna Brazil



Katharina Hdb Germany



Divya Shrestha Nepal



Anila Khatiwada Nepal



Anny Rawl Nepal



Nathalie Abdallah Lebanon



Tania Hannoun Austria/Lebanon



Owen Savage UK



**Pinar Uvgurer** Turkey



Vani Shanmugam India



**Tatjana Stefanovic** Serbia



**Rasmus Holm** Denmark



Juliette E. LLoren Denmark



Soren Klaverkamp USA



**Martina Popadakova** Slovakia

My time at Crossing Borders has been full of inspiration and new discoveries. CB gives me chances to learn more and do something new in the organization. I got positive impacts from Food for Thought, Mandela Day and several workshops. I really look forward to using these learning outcomes to not only develop projects at CB, but also to realise my dream which is to create a dialogue space for addressing stereotypes, prejudices and discriminations in Japan.

Yuka, Japan



Ms. Vibeke Quaade CHAIRPERSON, DANIDA FELLOWSHIP **CENTER** 



Ms. Kirsten Bruun **HEAD OF GLOBAL** CLASS, FLAKKEBJERG **EFTERSKOLE** 



Ms. Charline Skovgaard **FAIRSTYLES** 



Mr. Kannan P. Samy IT EXPERT



Mr. Ulrik Teisner SUBSTITUTE



**Gitte Colette Dia DEPUTY HEAD** AT ARBEJDERNES **LANDSBANK** 



**Céline Faty DESIGNER AND** THE FOUNDER OF QIIM



Mr. Mogens Houe FORMER VICE PRESIDENT OF DONG









Dr. Mariano A. Davis



Mr. Jesper Alstrom





Ms. Else Hammerich









Mr. Herbert Pundik



Ghasemiyani



Ms. Gunvor Krongman







Mr. John Philip Lorche



Mr. Antonino Imbesi





Dr. Mu'ayyad Mehyar



Dr. James Scot

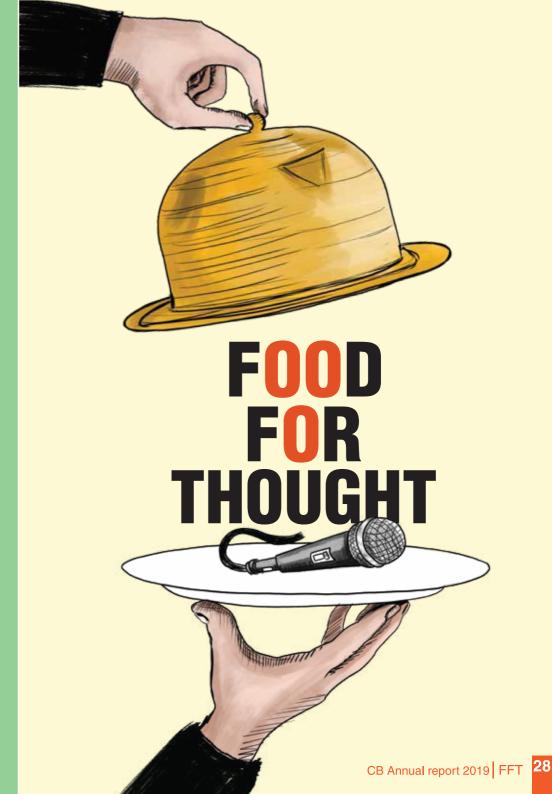








# HIGHLIGHTS





# **FOOD FOR THOUGHT** CONCEPT

Food For Thought provides an exciting space for people from different backgrounds to share their life stories. We want to enable people to learn from and be inspired by each other's life experiences through storytelling in a safe, stimulating and inclusive social environment.

# The idea stems from the belief that each one of us has unique life stories that are worth sharing and from which we can learn a lot. The idea also resonates with the saying: I tell my story, therefore, I am

Through Food For Thought, Danes and internationals alike have the chance to meet migrants and refugees at eye level and learn about their cultures and backgrounds, thereby challenging stereotypes and refuting what is often presented in the media.

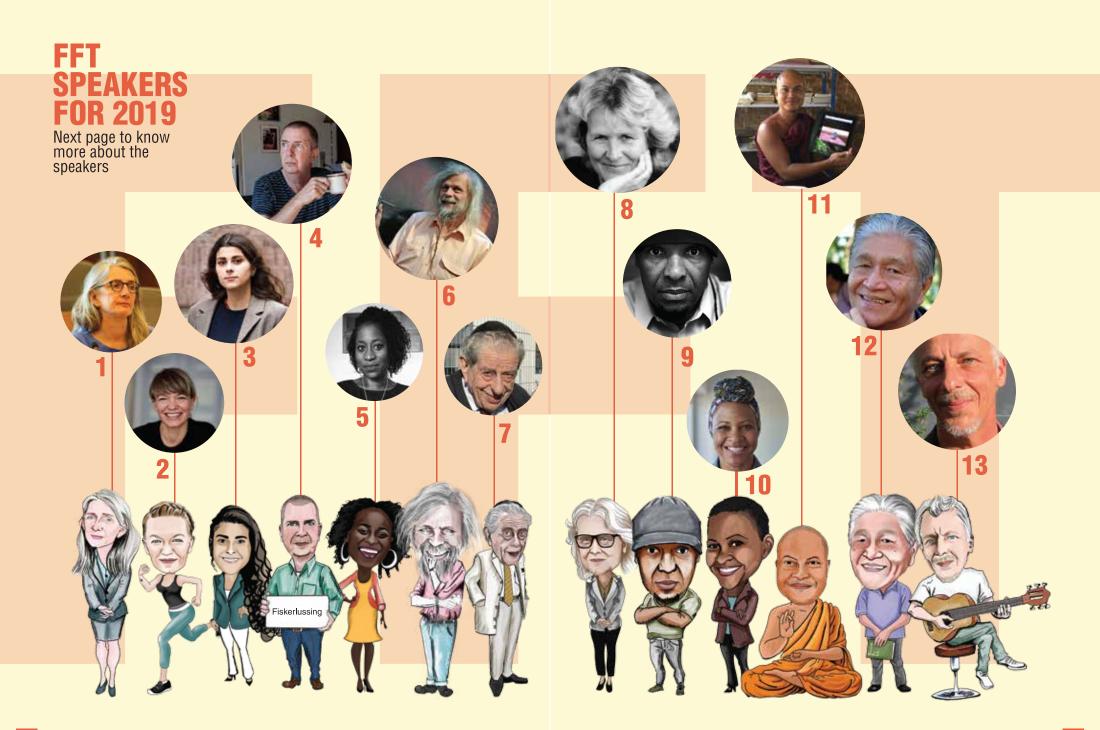
This flagship is more necessary now than ever before, as many European political elites are panicking about the arrival and the integration of relatively few refugees and migrants from the global south. This situation reflects the xenophobic and super nationalist resurgenge in many part of Europe. Therefore, it is necessery to create these spaces where people can meet on eye-level.

Over the years, Food For Thought has witnessed positive developments in many ways. The name Spisdating has been changed to Food For Thought. Whereas in 2017, Food For Thought had two events, this year the number of events has increased to 20, both in terms of the number of participants and the diversity of cultural and professional backgrounds. Considering that the average number of attendees of each event is 25, the total number of beneficiaries is about 500 people. Thanks to the strategic location of the Ubuntu House, Food For Thought is attracting more guests. Like the participants, the speakers come from wide-ranging backgrounds like Myanmar, Canada, the Congo, Denmark, Ghana, Kurdistan, Trinidad, Iran, Syria & Finland, Mexico, the Philippines, and the USA.

"Sharing stories and inspiring others, encouraging them to move and act for something meaningful is necessary, and doing it through food is even better because food also means reunion and sharing with family and friends. So, having a dinner as an excuse to listen a tale was a nice experience and really motivating.

> Natalia Colombia





# FFT **SPEAKERS FOR 2019**

# 1 Rita Tisdall

Project coordinator at Alternatives to Separation (ATOS)

### **2 Nanna Sine Munnecke**

Co-founder at Voltwomen

### **3 Sana Mahin Doost**

President of the national union Of Student in denmark

# 4 John Jørgensen Founder of Fiskerlussing

## **5** Carriene Rendbo

Entrepreneur CEO/Founder – I Love Natural Hair

### 6 Jacob Holdt

Photographer, writer and lecturer

# **7 Bent Melchior**Former chief rabbi of Denmark

### 8 Karen Blincoe

Board Member of Chora, founder of ICIS and former director of Schumacher College (UK)

### **9** Ron Da Costa

Educator - Danish Prison & Parole Services Behavioral Intervention Application Strategist

# **10** Céline Faty

Founder and Designer of "QIIM" an African inspired casual clothing line

### **Monk Owen**

Founder & Director of Mahasala Parahita school and Director of Crossing Borders Myanmar

# **12** Edicio de la Torre

Founding director of **Education for Life Foundation** 

### **13 LASSE JOHANSSON**

Founder of Connected Dreams & Bee Together













# 2019 EVENTS

# **CB20** celebration









### 18.10.2019

In celebrating CB20, we promoted unity in diversity, intercultural communication and international exchange in realizing our common humanity and mutual dependency in a global community. This celebration offered a unique opportunity for the CB national coordinators and alumni from across the globe to reunite and share life experiences. We united people who wish for and cherish a globalized world-in which diversity is celebrated as an asset-to join the CB community of global citizens.

The event was in collaboration with the Cinemateket of the Danish Film Institute in Copenhagen, which provided the space for the celebration. It was comprised of speeches, songs, debates, dance, films, slam poetry, highlights of CB work and other achievements. Borders' Crossing Patron, HE Ambassador Zindzi Mandela (the daughter of Nelson and Winnie Mandela) and CB Life Ambassador of Goodwill bestselling author Sara Omar, celebrated with us, sharing their thoughts through brilliant speeches.



Thank you for your support and solidarity and to the amazing CB team who again proved the power and beauty of diversity and teamwork and that together we can do it better. We also wish to thank and show our gratitude towards Cinemateket, for their great cooperation in opening their doors for us to share the celebration, as well as the speakers who took their time to make it such a brilliant celebration.

Thanks also to Susanne Gargiulo for her great coordination of the program and moderating the day and all who contributed to making this event happen: the flower providers, Stalks and Roots, Fiolblomster, Kultorvets Blomster, the coffee providers, Impact Roasters and Nordhavn Coffee Roasters, the D.J and the amazing chefs!

# Farewell dinner party for CB Patron HE Ambassador Zindzi Mandela of South Africa 15.11.2019

On Friday 15 November 2019, we at Crossing Borders had the honor to host a special farewell dinner party for one of the most special people in our time: CB Patron HE Ambassador Zindzi Mandela of South Africa. After (very few) four years as the Ambassador of South in Denmark, Zindzi is moving on to continue serving humanity from home or somewhere else.

Zindzi is not only the daughter of the greatest icons of Freedom, Equal Rights and Justice of the 20th and so far, the 21st centuries: Mama Winnie Madizikela Mandela and Nelson Mandela. Two icons who gave their entire lives to the struggle for freedom for all to live in dignity and in equal rights to life and a decent livelihood. As someone who was born and grew up in thick of the struggle against the evil of state racism, Zindzi is a true embodiment of this struggle.













Thus, as Ambassador, she represented and lived up to the ideals and values of what the Mandela name stands for. As such, she spent a lot of time in the field where she was needed most, visiting, comforting, listening to, cooking, baking for and serving those have been pushed to the margins of society: homeless persons, refugees, asylum seekers, people languishing in deportation centers and persons in need of empathic listener. Hence, she has been a human rights ambassador. Ambassador Zinzi also paid visits to civil society organizations and attended community events and festivals during which she stood behind her booth with cultural items from South Africa. In this way, she has been the cultural Ambassador of the Rainbow Nation. As a sister of Africa, she visited, inspired and encouraged many African enterprises in Denmark, including restaurants and other small businesses. Thank you, Ambassador, for

In sum, thank you for being the true sister of the nation, the ambassador of freedom, equal rights, and justice. Thank you for being a shining symbol of Ubuntu philosophy's unity in diversity. Thank youth for living up to the lives and legacies of the Mother and Father of the Nation: Mama Winnie and Nelson Mandela. As you are Crossing Borders Patron, we say see you SOON, somewhere across the borders of time and space and ideas in the struggle for a better world for all in harmony with Mother Farth

restoring trust in those who need most.

# **Julehygge** 17.12.2019









Following the successful Green Christmas Event hosted by Crossing Borders in 2018, we decided to continue the tradition and would like to invite you this year's hygge-inspired Christmas event. You will meet many new and interesting people from all over the world, where you can exchange your stories and experiences, good or bad. Together we will enjoy the coziest and inclusive evening in a traditional Danish way.

This event is all about celebrating Danish Christmas and building bonds of diversity and inclusion across Internationals and Danes.



















# **SA25 Celebration**

27, 28 and 29 of Nov. 2019

A mixed delegation came all the way from South Africa to Denmark for a Fashion Showcase and installations.

This delegation is composed of Fashion designers, Celebrity Chefs, Visual Artists, Film Makers, and Creative Entrepreneurs. These women and men are passionate about the creative sector and are on the search for business expansion, partnership, and international trade.

As This year, South Africa celebrates 25 years of democracy, human rights and transforming society. This presents an opportunity for the entire world to join in celebrating the South African miracle story, reflect on the socio-economic progress achieved since 1994 and think on better ways to advance economic freedom, social justice, and opportunities for all. Crossing Borders and MyArts International did that by celebrating the last SA25 Celebration that included Business Presentations. Business Interactions, Panel of Discussions, Fashion showcase and installations. Arts exhibitions as well as South African Food and Wine Tasting.

This event was in cooperation with MyArts International.







## **Food For Thought with Jacob Holdt** 21.11.2019

"Jacob Holdt made the Food for Thought event an unforgettable experience, not only for those guests who already know him but mostly for those who heard him for the first time. His charismatic personality and life experiences were almost impossible to imagine he left the audience impressed, inspired empowered. It almost felt as if one evening was not enough to get to hear all that Jacob has to say."







# **VET4Migre Multiplier Event**

### 21.11.2019

"During the VET4Migre Multiplier Event in Copenhagen, we celebrated the momentum that has given migrant entrepreneurs the space to build connections and support each other. The real-life examples from the entrepreneurs and stakeholders have also inspired us to continue supporting migrant entrepreneurship; we are excited about the future connections we will make!"

We come together last week to celebrate the completion of the Vocational Education and Training for Migrants and Refugees (VET4MIGRE) online course and project and to hear the experiences of the course participants: the stories of successful entrepreneurs' and the organizations supporting them!

VET4MIGRE is an Erasmus+ funded project, encouraging entrepreneurship in migrant groups which often otherwise face severe difficulty gaining employment. We recognize entrepreneurship as a tool for job creation, improving systems and knowledge in the area.

We celebrated this day by bringing together course participants, established migrant entrepreneurs, and community stakeholders, giving them an opportunity to network, share ideas and learn about the VET4MIGRE project!







# Participation in the folkemødet

In 2019, Crossing Borders was on duty in Folkemødet as usual and our hashtag #SDGs mini golf was a big hit! We were also privileged to have Mogens Lykketoft and Karen Blincoe in our CB tent. Over the three days, we talked a lot about the SDGs, especially with SDG activists from Uganda, Wakibu Bunnya, Balqesa Abdi, Dora Moch. We would like to thank everyone who joined us in our events and we look forward to the next years Folkemødet!

# 49 CR Annual report 2019 Events

# **International Women's Day**

The International Women's Day 2019 was held at CB and dedicated to the life and lagecy of Mama Winnie Madikizela Mandela. The event was in collaboration with the South African Embassy. The event began with welcome speeches by Mariano Davies, Vibeke Quade and Garba Diallo.

After a song from singer-songwriter Kwami Liv, Mpho Ludidi performed a song for South African Women. Following this. Sara Omar-author and human rights activist as well as ambassador for CB-spoke before Rikke Rønholt discussed Global Goals and the Women's World Cup. This fantastic event was added to by talks from Helga Thorbjorg and Carriene Rendbo and closing remarks from Zindziswa Nobutho Mandela—an ambassador for HE. To top it off, there was a tasty buffet followed by Another World, a band with Katrine Suwalski.











# **Workshop with DGI**

The CB workshop with the Next Generation Girls project with DGI offered interesting talks, great food and a chance to reflect on active citezenship.

After introductions from the mayor of Hillerød, Kirsten Jensen, the director of Crossing Borders, Garba Diallo and Peter Bennett, program leader of DGI North Zealand, we saw inspirational talks from Sara Omar and Zainab Ahmed. This prompted healthy discussions from the girls and their leaders.

Tasty food was provided by the club's chefs, which gave the girls a chance to rest and chat. With their stomach's full, they engaged in a workshop in groups, discussing their dream jobs as well as the opportunities and barriers they may face on their way to getting them. After sticking their dream jobs on our Dream Wall, their ideas were presented in front of the whole group. This workshop allowed the girls to think about their future as active citizens.

# In the Name of Confucius-Movie Screening 28.02.2019





Crossing Borders was pleased to show a documentary "In the Name of Confucius", which exposes the growing global expansion of the Chinese Confucius Institute around the world.

Doris Liu, producer and director, visited Denmark to show her film, which has recieved a number of awards. She gave talks about this Chinese education program.

# Youth Democratic Engagement in Africa 28.03.2019

This was an afternoon of tales from the field, inspirations, discussions, and debates about the topic of youths and young people in general, regarding their place and space within policy-making and influence in their local communities in Sub-Sahara Africa. The afternoon started with an information session where selected speakers told the story of how they work to engage young people in Africa around participatory policy participation and democracy. There was also a discussion and debate session on what we see as working well and what proves detrimental to this process.

### Women in Media in cooperation with the South African Embassy 03.04.2019

The purpose of the Women and Media Seminar on the 3rd of April was:

- 1- To follow up on the 2017 documentary film 'Winnie' and explore the media impact on the life and legacy of Winnie Madikizela Mandela.
- 2- To explore how women can play a stronger role and take more leader-ship/ownership in the media.
- 3- To expand our individual and institutional networks.

The program included keynote speakers Tsholo Lefifi, Deputy South African Ambassador, Pascale Lamche, film director, Nanna Sine Munnecke, Voltwomen, and a panel debates:Betty P.Kandindima, journalist, (DK/Zambia), Mai Rasmussen, Writer and Editor, self-employed (Pakistan), Zach Khadudu, Independent TV producer and human rights activist (Kenya) and moderator: Susanne Gargiulo, fmr. CNNi, (DK)





# Project Management Workshop by CB Lebanon 23.05.2019

On May 15th, two experts from Crossing Borders Lebanon visited us to share their expertise. The workshop covered the fundamentals of project management, such as stakeholder analysis, creating Project Risk and Communication Planning, an Effective Action Plan+ Monitoring and Evaluation and much more!

Marwa Jaafar, the leading facilitator of the workshop, has extensive experience in managing projects in both the emergency and development context. Ms. Jaafar is currently leading a UNICEF funded project and drafting a new proposal with other donors to cover the gaps and reach a more significant number of beneficiaries with quality services, primarily in the education sector.





# Panel Debate: Street Children in Africa 06.06.2019

In many developing countries, the number of street children is growing due to rapid, unplanned urbanization and other factors. These homeless children lack basic needs and are highly vulnerable to exploitation and abuse—resulting in few reaching adulthood. Some develop deep-rooted, social-emotional traumas which make it hard for them to reintegrate into normal life.

This was an invitation to an afternoon of stories and findings from the field, inspiration, discussions and debates about vulnerable children in Africa and how to find practical, workable solutions. The afternoon was structured to start with an information session where an eight minute short film from Global Hope directed by the Danish filmmaker Amalie Malmgren Asmild was screened and selected speakers told the story of how they work with street children and vulnerable children in Africa. The second session led into a discussion and debate session on what we see as working well, and what works as detrimental to this process.





Nelson Mandela has fought for social justice for 67 years. We're asking you to start with 67 minutes.





# Mandela Day in a cooperation with the South African Embassy and Skraldejagt 18.07.2019

"Nelson Mandela has fought for social justice for 67 years. We're asking you to start with 67 minutes."

Crossing Borders, in Cooperation with Skraldejagt and the South African Embassy celebrated Nelson Mandela International Day. Mandela Day is a global call for action that celebrates the idea that each individual has the power to transform the world and the ability to make an impact. Mandela Day is not meant as a public holiday, but as a day to honor the legacy and values of Nelson Mandela through volunteering and community service. On the occuasion, we held an event in the center of Copenhagen where we offerd food, drinks and speeches. As a highlight of the event, Christian Balslev-Olesen, the former secretary general of Dan Church Aid, gave a keynote speech about the life of Mandela.









# This year, Crossing Borders has been part of Refugee Food Festival - Copenhagen

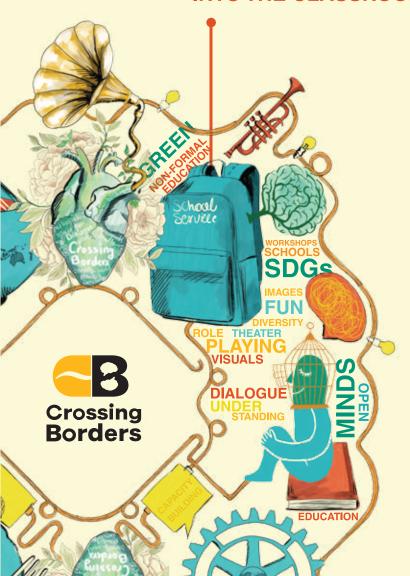
From June 20 to 24, local restaurants in Copenhagen opened their kitchens to refugee chefs for unique experiences. The guest chefs designed and prepared the best dishes of their home-country in collaboration with the restaurants' chefs.

Our Crossing Borders volunteers, Hannah Kraus and Marina Marin who have been tirelessly working on the Refugee Food Festival - Copenhagen -2019! But not only them! Zaki Abbara and Nice Yechiela were among the main chefs of the festival and they cooked traditional food from their origins in very popular restaurants in Copenhagen.



# **SCHOOL SERVICE**

BRINGING THE WORLD INTO THE CLASSROOM





The school service program includes a set of workshops that provide young people with the tools they need to understand and navigate a globalized world. Our methods have been developed through 20 years of active work in the field of non-formal education and active citizenship. During this period, the workshops have been tested and refined though our interactions with more than seven thousand students representing more than eighty free schools, elementary schools, after-schools, secondary schools and colleges.

We bring civil society into the school with a team of young professionals from all over the world who teach sustainable development and global citizenship. Youngsters are taught to become active global citizens with an understanding of the international global society. We expand the Nordic educational tradition and ethos of non-formal education and lifelong learning with the goal being to strengthen young people's knowledge and skills about sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, the promotion of a peaceful and non-violent culture, world citizenship and the appreciation of cultural diversity and culture's contribution to sustainable development. In the School Services program, teachers act as co-developers and workshops are tailored and integrated into the general classroom program.



# **Workshops implemented in 2019**

Date	Topic	Location	Number of participants
12-14-2018	Peace and Justice	Hanebjerg Skole, Hillerød	73
01-22-2019	Global Hotspots	International school in Vedersø	50
01-24-2019	Quality of Education	Herlufsholm Skole	102
01-29-2019	Climate action	Herlufsholm Skole	54
01-30-2019	Peace and Justice	Herlufsholm Skole	61
2-12-2019	Peace and Justice	Krogerup Højskole	17
02-15-2019	Climate action	Krogerup Højskole	17
03-11-2019	Refugees and Migration	Flakkebjerg school with students from Italy, Poland, Bulgaria, Turkey (Erasmus+ project)	80
03-19-2019	Refugees and migration	Lissleskole Helsingor	24
04-02-2019	Climate action	Skolen ved Sundet	75
04-11-2019	Refugees and Migration	Ubuntu house	19
07-30-2019	Democracy and education	Workshop with Happiness catalyst – Japanese organisation at Krogerup Højskole	12
08-17-2019 08-18-2019	Blue Scouts in Action Globally	De vilde svaner Nivå	15
09-11-2019	Next Generation Girls project	DGI Nord Sheeland	100
09-24-2019	Culture and Identity	Flakkebjerg	47
10-10-2019	Integration	Turshavn municipality	70
10-24-2019	UN day and SDGs	Labor movement high school – Moelv Norway	60
11-01-2019	SDGs in action	Bavnehøj Skole	8
11-07-2019	True meaning of Crossing Borders	Krogerup Højskole at Ubuntu house	16
12-10-2019	Refugees and Migration	UngHolbaek Skole, Holbaek (students from Denmark, Greece, Finland and Italy)	28
12-12-2019	Peace and conflict	Huneiri High School from Hiroshima, Japan at Ubuntu house	45

"It was good for me to discuss with lots of information after the lecture about peace. It is very important to say opinions not only listening, so I would like to have this kind of opportunities more."

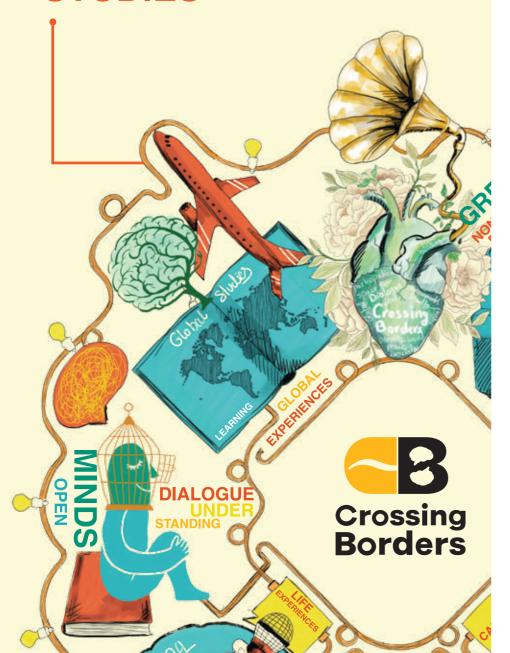
On 12th Dec, Ubuntu House welcome 44 16-17 year old Japanese high school students from Hiroshima – a city largely destroyed by an atomic bomb during World War 2 – for a three hour workshop. We not only had a lecture by Garba Diallo (Managing Director of CB), but group activities facilitated by our School Services Project Coordinator Tatjana including open discussions and group presentations. After CB staff from 15 different countries joined the group work and discussion, many students mentioned the diversity of CB and the peaceful environment we have engendered there.







# **CB GLOBAL STUDIES**



"A fundamental concern for others in our individual and community lives would go a long way in making the world the better place we so passionately dreamt of" - Nelson Mandela

Crossing Borders Global Studies is an interdisciplinary course designed for socially minded and globally oriented students from around the world. In this course, you will you will live, learn, and travel with young people from across the globe, all while experiencing Danish culture and lifestyle. Through the nine modules the course provides, you will discover a global perspective, learn about global issues from experts and peers alike, and have the chance to generate and co-generate smart projects for the public good. You will discover your own inner strength and capacity to thrive as a global citizen anywhere in this interconnected world.



# **Long Courses**

"We're all in this together. A fundamental concern for others in our individual and community lives would go a long way in making the world the better place we so passionately dreamt of" Nelson Mandela

Inspired by the above quote from Mandela, in this course, you will have the chance to try out your ideas and build your capacity to be able to live, study and work with other fellow colleagues anywhere in this interconnected world. You will discover and experience a sense of balance and wellbeing in the company of a diverse group of people with different backgrounds and perspectives. You will meet fellow youth from Denmark and from around the world and learn to co-generate smart projects for public good. You will have the chance to learn from and together with fellow youth from around the globe. This is because Crossing Borders is an interdisciplinary course designed for socially minded and globally oriented students from Denmark and from around the world.

# **Partnership with Nordfyns Højskole**

Nordfyns is one of 70 folk high schools in Denmark, but it is special in that it was founded by a Japanese enthusiast Tadao Chiba, who came to Denmark more than 50 years ago. Since then Nordfyns has been an international folk high school welcoming student from all over the world to study here. In the multicultural environment, students meet a variety of people, lifestyles, hopes and dreams for the future. All students strive for creating a better life in a better world.

Therefore, we offer subjects and a learning community that will produce new ways of living personally and in the "global village". Here you can learn with your heart, your brain, your hands and your body. This holistic learning will be qualifying you for the future - you shape your future and "you will be the change; you want to see"



# **Short Courses**

In our short-term courses, you will get a chance to learn and see the world through your teachers and fellow students' perspectives as well as through stories from around the globe. You will try out your ideas and build your capacity to be a change-maker in your community, striving for a better life and world by learning about: the climate, migration, wellbeing, human rights, democracy, gender and non-formal education, to name but a few. This is a 1-2-week course not far from Copenhagen (Denmark).

# **Up-Coming Short Courses**



Create your own Happiness lifestyle and Value – Crossing Borders Folk High School 5-day program in March 2020



Climate Challenges and Solutions – Crossing Borders Folk High School 10-day program in January 2020

# **CB-IC**

In addition to the CB program at Nordfyns Hojskole, we are developing a truly international college to build on and expand the CB Global Studies programme and give a chance to more youth across the globe. The college will be called Crossing Borders International College: CB-IC. The CB-IC is inspired by humanist ideals and lessons from the life and legacy of Nelson Mandela. Mandela was able to confront and overcome state racism, as well as persecution at huge personal sacrifice. To overcome challenges, Mandela derived inspiration and strength from the universal value of human rights, equality, social and economic justice, civic participation and democracy. He came out of 27 years of imprisonment with a clear vision of a democratic society based on the absolute equality of all citizens, without bitterness or revenge.

Thus, the aim of the CB-IC resonates with the ideals of Unity in Diversity which were the sources of inspiration for Mandela. The CB-IC embodies values of mutual acceptance, respect, cooperative intercultural coexistence, peaceful resolution of conflicts and human rights for all. These are the core values which Crossing Borders has drawn upon throughout the 20 years of its existence. Regarding the location of the CB-IC, we are searching for a suitable building facility to establish the college. Information about this will be soon available on our website and will be shared with our partners





# INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS



# ONGOING **PROJECTS IN AFRICA**



## OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To ensure that Community Radio and its rights to public airwaves is recognized, validated and maximized as a major and indispensable public resource (especially for the most disadvantaged communities) towards the realization of the UN Sustainable Development Goals or Global agenda 2030.

**Participatory** 

216 YOUTH 50% FEMALE

Community

This project improved the capacity of 216 youths (of

which 50% were female) to use their Community Radio stations. Through community radio stations, the project aimed to ensure that the most disadvantaged or marginalized people in Ghana join their efforts towards the UN SDGs 2030 agenda.

To Communicate

This project is follow-up of our earlier piloted CISU funded "Youth and SDGs awareness through Debate" project, where a tried off methodology to engage young people and teachers in 10 pilot schools as a way of getting them involved with the SDGs.

The premise of this project is that, ongoing processes related to localizing the SDGs in Uganda such as the development of the recently launched national road map for implementation of SDGs and sector development plans are not just complex in nature but hardly involve youth beyond consultation or bring about youth led action on ground. Hence, the voices of young people who constitute the biggest percentage of the population are missing in the SDGs agenda. And even those times young people are reached, these have failed to produce real effects as it is a cosmetic endeavor without genuine participation.

This project is running along three specific objectives, namely: 1. To increase engagement of local youth leaders in schools and local communities to own and promote the SDGs agenda through delivering a comprehensive mentorship program. 2. Increasing dialogue and collaboration among local young leaders and stakeholders involved in implementation and monitoring of SDGs. 3. Raising awareness about the national road map for implementation of SDGs and other existing national SDG frameworks among youth in the targeted schools and local communities

# ONGOING PROJECTS IN EUROPE





# Eurospectives 2.0 Digital



This is an ongoing project which started in September 2018 and is expected to end in September 2020. The Eurosperctives 2.0 stands for encouraging European learners in telling their stories and their perspectives as active citizens.

Storytelling currict la for participation

This project intends to sustain the assessment system to identify smart practice methods and turn them into state-of-the-art training modules, integrating digital storytelling into lifelong learning pathways. This approach will enable disadvantaged learners to share their stories, make their voices heard and participate as active European citizens. Europerspectives is currently being carried out in six countries: Denmark, Germany, the UK, Spain, Greece and Italy.

September 2018 To September 2020 and citizen ship





PAESIC aims to provide trainings and promote social cohesion, along with the competences of teachers to enhance social inclusion through improving pedagogical approaches and methodologies.

November 2018 To November 2020

report, a guide for teachers, a toolkit for school leaders and an online teachers' course.

The project hopes to use the exchange of good practice to enhance the inclusion of all students-especially those with migrant and refugee backgrounds-and create options for more inclusive classrooms and schools. In order to do so, the project will develop a target groups



## September 2018 To February 2021

Peace Lens' main purpose is to shed light on the problems faced by students face within the educational system and try to begin thinking of solutions. The goal is to create a board game and, to be able to archive our goal, we have conducted several surveys in different classes and a handbook of the survey results has been disseminated. Currently, the board game is still in the creation process. The project will be implemented in Denmark, Germany and Luxembourg and Italy.





September 2018 To February 2021

The main purpose of this project is to generate a source of education for the field workers within the NGO sector about the best/smartest practices involved with creating active citizenship. The aim will be achieved by having a meeting in each of the involved partner countries, where each of the organization's involved will present at least 2 smart practices. After collecting around 100 smart practices, an E-book will be created and disseminated. This project will be implemented in seven countries: Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy and the UK.





October 2018 to December 2020

The project intends to answer to the above indicated Erasmus Plus priorities. The number of people seeking refugee status in Europe has soared over recent years. This is due in large part to the war in Syria and Iraq, as well as conflict and instability in countries such as Afghanistan, Eritrea and elsewhere. And many are arriving from Africa or other countries too. So the project wants to learn migrants and refugees to engage them in the society increasing with their contribution to the economic, political and social dimension of the partners' countries.

The project aims at providing them with equal opportunities and experience which enable them to develop knowledge, skills, and competencies and to play a full part in all aspects of society, including the economy Social Inclusion and Labor Market Integration of refugees and migrants is one of the pressing issues in the migration crisis and of great importance for the European countries that are hosting them: it is possible to contribute to the social inclusion of marginal communities. migrants and refugees and help build a better mutual understanding of what diversity means in Europe today The project offers also an excellent opportunity for exchange and networking between organizations working in different countries It is also an occasion to deepen understanding of the broader policy context at European level. intercultural Through and interfaith dialogue, the project build tolerance and aims to respect





### above indicated Erasmus Plus priorities. The number of people seeking refugee status in Europe has soared over recent years. This is due in large part to the war in Syria and Iraq, as well as conflict and instability in countries such as Afghanistan, Eritrea and elsewhere. And many are arriving from Africa or other countries too. So the project wants to learn migrants and refugees to engage them in the society increasing with their contribution to the economic, political and social dimension of the partners' countries.

The project intends to answer to the

The overall objective for this project is to support the creation, improvement, and wider dissemination of support schemes for migrant entrepreneurs.

September 2017 to December 2019





## September 2018 To December 2020

Overall Objective: The objective of this 28 month, Erasmus+ project, is to use narrative methodologies and digital design tools to tell stories about European cultural heritage and to contribute to making this history more well-known.





This project has offered youth workers and NEETS (Not in Education, Employment or Trainings) new knowledge and skills about cultural mediation and theatrical and digital storytelling to co-create new products of cultural tourism relevant to the market. Using live interpretations, young actors guide citizens and tourists through details, histories and places belonging to the cultural heritage of the European cities involved (in Denmark, Italy, Germany and Spain). Funded by Erasmus+ and the Danish Ministry of Higher Education, 60 NEETS have participated in this project.





## **Main Objective:**

To make a contribution to a bottom-up, people-to-people approach to peace-building by strengthening the role of young people as peace ambassadors capable of acting as a bridge to peaceful conflict resolution among the post-soviet societies, particularly in Ukraine and Georgia civil societies

2016 Ongoing

# Many countries in the Balkan region have for many years had repeated violent conflicts with lasting repercussions on the development and well-being of communities within them. As prominent victims in these conflicts, young people are the right audience to lead change. Implemented in Ukraine and Georgia, the project took the form of various courses, exchanges and informal learning as well as lobbying and advocacy.

Within Georgia and Ukraine, over 100 young people engaged in analyzing what the conflict-filled past of these countries has been like and thought through possibilities for a peaceful future. With engagement from policymakers and wider Civil Society networks, enthusiasm for engagement has grown. Our partners Alternative-V have themselves gone into partnership with local organizations in the Ukraine to extend youth trainings to a fourth region there.

# Across the North:

In this project, "Across the North: Our Stories of Migration," the aim is to support young people in using digital storytelling to tell and exchange stories about their own personal experiences of migration. In close collaboration with young people from the Nordic region, and especially the Arctic region, this program has identified the theme of migration as especially salient. "Migration," is a cross-cutting topic for which people from the Nordic region, especially Greenlandic and Sami youth, have a personal stake. Not only that, it is a theme for which sharing stories digitally, has the possibility of strengthening a sense of one's own identity, culture, and relations in the North.

It is a topic for which young people will participate in the meaningful exchange, cultivating better understanding individually and across cultures. We also aim to collect and preserve these stories made by young people and point to a wider constellation via mapping, illuminating how these young people are interconnected in their movements across time and space.

stories of Migration



The project, Young Ambassadors for Peace in Eastern Europe and Caucasus regions is a 2-year partnership project between Armenia, Denmark, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine. Our project's overall objective is: To contribute to a bottom-up, youth-to-youth approach to peace-building by strengthening the role of young people and youth related CSO networks to be vigilant democratically aware, and socially responsible peace ambassadors, capable of building bridges to peaceful conflict resolution among the Eastern Europe neighborhood and Caucasus regions. Please follow the different links on this website to know more about what the project is about, enjoy your visit, and do not hesitate to contact us for more information if the need arises.

Project objectives:

The project runs on three specific objectives as follows:

# Ambassador of Peace in the Eastern of Lastern of Laster

To empower at least 200 young people from Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine to become peace ambassadors, capable of contributing to peace building at the local, national, and regional levels.

To mobilize, facilitate and capacitate other youth related CSOs, schools & policy environment, to be aware of, and further the empowerment of youth in Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, to become peace ambassadors, able to support peace efforts at all levels.

## ucasus

To compile, validate, regionalize, and increase the utilization of better practices and success stories (toolbox/tool-kit) about peace building tools and initiatives in the region, as a way of supporting the already existing resources for cultivating a culture of peace and non-violent conflict resolution and transformation.

## RECENT LAUNCHED PROJECTS



Foster Social Inclusion Another Erasmus+ Project.

Fostering Social Inclusion is a two-year project in which Crossing Borders a partner with five more partners, Youth Europe Service from Italy , M&M Profuture Training, S.L. from Spain, Comparative Research Network from Germany , SEEDS -SEE beyonD borderS from Iceland and Socialinės partnerystės centras from Lithuania

The project seeks to address and foster diversity through best practices, the social inclusion of persons at risk of social exclusion such as migrants, refugees, health-related conditions, low-skilled and low-qualified, female and gender-related discrimination.

The partnership will develop, produce and disseminate best practice training modules and ideas and successful practices and methodologies for social inclusion.

The main results are going to be translated and made available as Open Educational Resources in 8 different languages (English + all partners' National languages).

The project targets educators from partner countries who are going to participate in intensive transnational project meetings, including training activities and visits to stakeholders.





DiA "Dialogue in Adult Education" funded by Erasmus+

With our partners from Germany, Poland, Ukraine, North Macedonia, Croatia and Cyprus, we will be working closely for the next two years in this project to share methods and smart experiences of how to use dialogue in peacebuilding and conflict transformation. Those methods will be used as a database for educators to be used for adult learners.



### **PROSPECTS IN THE PERIPHERIES (PIP**

The project PROSPECTS IN THE PERIPHERIES (PIP) aims to counter uneven development which increasingly marginalises the peripheral regions across Europe. The peripheries, which are increasingly less favored over urban centers, as a result often have fewer opportunities in terms of (among others): youth migration; declining learning and training opportunities; fewer cultural events; loss of socioeconomic capital. Narrow labour markets and business opportunities, few cultural events and learning opportunities can lead to further marginalisation and radicalisation of youth that stay behind in peripheries, while those with sufficient social or economical capital move to more central regions. This project deploys innovative educational methods to involve NEETs in the job market, creating for them various tools that, at the same time, can promote entrepreneurship, especially of sustainable ideas in the partners' cities: this means that the project "PIP" contributes to building the prospects and economies of the periperipies. The partnership is composed by 7 experienced organisations from Copenhaghen (Denmark), Perfugas (Italy), Berlin (Germany), Czestochowa (Poland), Kuopio (Poland), Larisa (Greece), and Alora (Spain) with respective/complementary expertise.

# A WINDOW TO THE FUTURE

### Future perspectives

To conclude this publication, we would like to reiterate that CB is resolved to build on the organisational experiences from the fields in Denmark and around the world to strengthen our organisational capacity and outreach in order to take the next step in our development.

Thus, in the near future we intend to deploy the experience gained from the past 20 years to take the next steps. These steps comprise the development of the CB Mandela International College in Denmark and the Mandela African Youth in Action Programme in Africa.

We are fully aware that these are ambitious goals whose realization require strong determination and many resources. However, with the strong will of the CB team and sufficient support from our friends, we have no doubt that these ideas will and can be turned into real actions as a contribution toward a better world.

Crossing Borders Team

