



# RLG-NEWSLETTER - 2

## Reaching the Lost Generation

March 2016

### The test groups

Testing the exercises for competence and skills development made up an integral part of the target groups' activities in the four countries. The schedule used enables the partners – whose programmes will run at a later period – to utilize the earlier experiences gained by the other groups. It was the German partners who started the testing period, with the Scottish and Hungarian participants continuing it. The Polish partners started their first series at the beginning of 2016. Based on the written and oral feedback of the trainers and students involved, the programme has undergone several corrections simultaneously with the second round of testing.

The lack of self-confidence and vision for the future combined, basically characterize the participating young people within the programmes. They are however significantly different to each other in many respects. In Germany a module of RLG training has been built into a longer programme of girls and boys aged 16-18 who lack any vocational skills and want to find a work placement. In Scotland the participants are secondary school students aged 15-16, many of whom want to finish their studies after finishing compulsory schooling at an age of 16. In Hungary the participants form two groups: a group of disadvantaged young people living in reformatories, and a group of those who are neither employed, nor in education at that time and are aged 16-24. The Polish participants at aged 17 are placed much closer to the world of traditional education. They joined the program as students of a secondary school, which offers general education and a vocational school, with just a few months left to finish their studies.

The aim of the testing was to check how the exercises had worked in the first round. The young people and the trainers have enjoyed the programmes in each country. They particularly liked the activities connected with everyday life and the activities with a minimum requirement for written work. Besides them showing stronger motivation for learning and working we have a few measurable results as well. The proportion of German students who want to find a workplace or a vocation significantly grew as compared to those groups without a RLG module. More Scottish students decided to continue their studies in some form or other. The summaries of experiences of individual countries can be read on the homepage of the project.

### Connected professional materials

Development work in the project is based on a foundation paper relying on a number of sources. We however have witnessed that the quantity of research papers and articles focusing on the learning process, career starts and employment has been permanently increasing even since the beginning of the project. A greater amount of new data and ideas have been presented which professionals should be familiar with if they want to support the NEET target groups. One can find a menu entitled *Connected Materials* which helps to share this professional information.

### Connection

The homepage (<http://rlg.edunet.hu>) helps the experts to follow the development of the project. The members of the Foundation welcome individual questions sent to their e-mail address: [info@edunet.hu](mailto:info@edunet.hu).

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