**Minutes Towards Peace Meeting in Belgium**

**25th-27th of June 2014**

**25th of June – Leuven**

Morning@OPEK

1. Alderwoman of culture of the city of Louvain **Denise Vandevoort** welcomes all the Grundtvig partners. She discusses the city of Leuven as a city of students and lots of culture and creative minds. She started up De FactorY in 1998. In 2014 there is a remembrance of the great fire in August 1914, the start of World War 1 in Leuven, when lots of civil lives were lost and also cultural heritage was destroyed (300.000 books in the university library).
2. **Koen Adams**, the artistic coördinator of 30CC, gives an introduction on the history and culture of Belgium: Flanders, Brussels and Wallonia and of course, Leuven (see powerpoint presentation).
3. **Sanne Clerinx**, coordinator of De FactorY, explains about the history of De FactorY and what the project is all about (see powerpoint presentation).
4. **Maaike Buys**, mentor at De FactorY, explains how the atelier works and which methodologies she uses to work with the participants. People work in projects, each individually but on a common theme (this year it is “war” and “conflict” in remembrance of World War 1). There are two levels of participation, the projects for those who are “new” in the atelier and their own project for the “advanced” where they can work on chosen themes or techniques. Maaike helps the participants and lets them discover their own interests, strengths and weaknesses but everything should come from within the participant. Maaike shows some of the works that have been made this year.
5. **Luís Prada** discusses the formalities of the Towards Peace project (see powerpoint presentation). The main points are:
   * Midterm report:
     + explain the changes made to the project, make sure they get accepted and if not, contact Luís;
     + the peace message won’t be delivered due to the fact that Austria didn’t get selected. We will make a common message in the video we will make.
   * Next meetings:
     + Hungary (counts as a mobility but is no official meeting: Belfast and Lithuania are attending): digital story telling;
     + Each partner can visit another partner and let it count as a mobility but you have to ask permission to your head agency and tell them why you want this mobility and what you will do;
     + October 2014 (21st-24th): Lithuania (Justina will send a suggestion/options about the program). Everybody needs to write the methodology they use in their local project for this meeting;
     + March 2015: Poland (Warsaw): Jan will keep us posted in the next meeting in Lithuania;
     + June 2015: Nuremberg (final meeting, presentation of the outcome of Towards Peace).
   * Outcome of the project
     + A written document :in English;
     + The website (platform): in English;
     + Video: Hungary will ask Sevy to create a common format of how to film and how to present the video. Also Belgium and Belfast know editors who could edit all of the videos into one common video of 5-10 minutes (this will be the common peace message). Hungary, Belgium and Belfast ask about the price to make this video (cost should be no more than 800 euro). The video should be subtitled in English, as all other audiovisual material.
   * Breandan will send an ethics guideline on digital story telling
   * Breandan will make a vimeo account for the video that was made in Belfast and where we can upload other videos
   * All partners need to exchange more know how and expertise on their projects (= one of the aims of Grundtvig projects)
   * We will use the existing internet platform to upload information about our local projects but first some changes need to be made and we have to see how much it costs. Luís will check with the German partner of the 2WARds Europe project and will explain us how it works (maybe an item for the agenda for the meeting in Lithuania?)
6. Presentation by Linette, Liv and Anders about the local project in Kolding (see powerpoint presentation). The city archives of Kolding gather stories of the inhabitants of a city area which houses lots of refugees and immigrants by different projects (playing chess, caravan where it’s possible to upload documents and leave personal stories and information, a project in an art school for children using different photo techniques) and present them with both inhabitants of the area and of the city center of Kolding during different events (cultural night, open air museum).

Afternoon@Museum M + tower university library

1. First we get an explanation by Koen about the building of the museum and then Anne, gives us an introduction of the main collection which hosts ancient artwork by artists from Louvain and Flemish Brabant and art that is important for this region. After this everyone visits the exhibition *Ravage* (an exhibition on war and conflict and how it inflicts art and cultural live) at its own pace with an audio guide;
2. Next we visit the University Library Tower which also hosts an exhibition on the destruction of the university library during both world wars and the reconstruction of it. On top we have a great view of Leuven and its surroundings.

**26th of June – Flanders Fields**

We visit Flanders Fields in a program set up by the coordinator of the 2WARds Europe project, GC De Zeyp.

1. Memorial Museum of Passchendaele
2. Tyn Cot Cemetery
3. The trench of death
4. Goose Foot
5. Nieuwpoort: seaside

**27th of June – Brussels**

Outcome of 2WARds Europe: presentations, workshop,

Morning@GC De Zeyp

1. Welcome by Ivo Peeters, director of De Zeyp and presentation of 2WARds Europe;
2. Presentation Towards Peace projects (France, Belgium, Germany, Hungary, Belfast, Denmark, Lithuania): see power point presentations.
3. Workshop: Südwind NÖ Süd: one of the outcomes of 2WARds Europe is a workshop that uses video material of all of the partners on peace and conflict. This can be used in schools, organizations to discuss on different topics. This is available and free for everybody (the only translation for now is in English);

Afternoon@De Zeyp

1. Website: has all partners and their projects on it, also all of the minutes (is not interesting for visitors of the site). We could have one home page with two buttons that go to each project. You can have two different urls but they go to the same page. Luís will discuss the finance and the structure with the webmaster;
2. The final report of 2 WARds Europe will be written by a few of the partners who will come together once more in September;
3. Exhibitions of Poland, Czech Republic and Belgium: both at De Zeyp, The Villa (stories of Jews during the second world war) and a local school project: the Path of Peace.

Dinner@De Zeyp

Network party, special guest: Simon Gronowski, a jew who survived the Holocaust, his mother threw him out of the train to Auschwitz. Now he goes all around the world to tell his story and asks young people not to let this happen again and holds a pledge for peace and forgiveness.