

## **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE PROMOTION OF A COMMON FRAMEWORK OF REFERENCES FOR YOUTH POLICIES IN THE ADRIATIC AREA**

The institutional partners of the "Youth AdriNet" project, funded by the Adriatic IPA Cross-Border Cooperation Programme 2007-2013, represented by their political decision-makers who sign the present document and identified as follows:

Lead Beneficiary, Province of Gorizia: Mr. Federico PORTELLI

PP1 - Province of Pesaro-Urbino: Ms. Daniela CIARONI

PP3 - Municipality of Rimini: Ms. Sara VISINTIN

PP4 - Municipality of Gorizia: Mr. Stefano CERETTA

PP5 - Province of Campobasso: Mr. Alessandro DI LABBIO

PP7 - Apulia Region: Mr. Guglielmo MINERVINI

PP8 - Municipality of Novi Grad – Sarajevo: Mr. Elvir RESIĆ

PP9 - Regional Council of Shkoder: Mr. Maxhid CUNGU

PP10 - Autonomous Province of Vojvodina: Ms. Tatjana BANJANIN PEJIĆ

PP11 - Municipality of Izola: Ms. Kristina ZELIČ

PP12 - City of Dubrovnik: Mr. Miho KATIČIĆ

PP13 - City of Pula: Mr. Fabrizio RADIN

### **HAVE CONSIDERED**

- the Political Decision-Makers' Agenda approved by the partners in Sarajevo on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2012;
- the Guidelines produced as the final output of the project;
- the experience gained during the project Youth AdriNet;
- the "Addendum" attached as an integral part of the present Memorandum of Understanding;

## RECOGNIZE AND BELIEVE

the importance of the following strategic objectives, priorities and methodological guidance and that these may represent a common frame of reference for the Adriatic area in Youth Policies field.

### Strategic Objectives

1. To Promote, create, develop and support the cooperation and integration among political actors at different institutional levels (local, regional, national) as a basis for generating and improving Youth Policies;
2. To promote space and opportunities for young people to actively participate in the social life of their communities (democratization through youth participation). In line with this, the partners recognize the strategic role of professionals in youth policy (i.e.: educators, youth workers, social workers, trainers, local development consultants) to implement this process at local level;
3. To create an Integrated Education System, a key element for youth involvement in the community, to strengthen political commitment and to increase the role of civil society in Youth Policies;
4. To promote a youth active approach;
5. To arrange training to support all the actors involved (both young people and political decision-makers);
6. To promote and support internationalization and youth mobility;
7. To promote an approach aimed at integrating the "age" factor in every stage of the decision-making process (design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation) to ensure equal opportunity for citizens of all age groups, both young and adult.

### Priorities

Thanks to a comparison with the young people in the different territories, the following priorities were identified and agreed among partners:

1. To support young people to search, develop or improve their **role/position and experience at work**, with an awareness of the effects that this issue can have on youth and on their "person"-building process;
2. To create opportunities and places for socializing and discussing all the various aspects of the young people's lives;
3. To promote and facilitate access to training and improving the education system and related activities;

4. To increase availability and access to information, communication opportunities/tools, use of social networks;
5. To create and support the opportunity for young people to influence the political decision-making processes;
6. To promote mobility opportunities both at national and international level;
7. To promote volunteering and social activities for young people;
8. To create and develop actions to counter the phenomenon of “brain drain”;
9. To support the development of a “formal” network among political decision-makers - named “Adriatic Conference on Youth Policies” - and a network - named “Youth Adriatic Lab” - among the Youth Forums of the different cities and/or countries in order to ensure their future sustainability and also the opportunity to create new cooperation projects and apply for EU funds;
10. To involve young people in the drawing up youth-related documents;
11. To support training courses for educators, youth workers and social workers at the local level.

### **Methodological guide**

1. There must be a cross-sectorial approach at institutional level which focuses on youth resources and opportunities and on all issues related to support a process of development and creation of active citizenship in all policies that the administrations create (Age Mainstreaming). This aspect highlights the importance of communication, the forming of internal and external networks among institutions, and of the project sustainability after its conclusion;
2. To integrate Youth Policies with policies for employment and with all other policies affecting youth life – education, culture, sport, housing, urban development;
3. To fulfil the intention to counteract the gap between the young and the institutions, and between the different levels within these same institutions. To reduce the distance with young people is an objective but also a strategy to achieve true citizenship, both now and in the future. Increasing the links between institutions is necessary to have more effective policies, capable of taking into account the needs and characteristics of the youth world;
4. To consider the differences between young adolescents and young adults in developing strategies in Youth Policies.

### **Commitments by each partner<sup>1</sup>**

Each partner is committed to:

1. support and ensure the maintenance of:

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<sup>1</sup> Referring to the Italian “Provinces” the present commitment depends on the possible changes of their responsibilities and competences relating to future reform of the existing laws.



- a. A place/institution of political representation on the youth issues (department of Youth Policies);
  - b. A place of youth participation in the decisions that affect them (forum);
  - c. A place of comparison with civil society on the issues concerning youth (civil society conference);
  - d. A place for technical expertise on youth issues to meet (technical staff with experts on youth policies);
2. support and ensure the maintenance of a physical space, dedicated to information, socialization, communication dedicated to young people;
  3. offer opportunities for young people to have transnational comparison with their peers or other actors involved in the issue of youth;
  4. foresee official recognition of the forms of youth representation as a space for dialogue between young people and institutions.

### **Commitments by each partner to network maintenance<sup>2</sup>**

Each partner commits to:

1. Keep an active forum with contributions of young people by the communication platform and support the constitution of a permanent network of Youth Forums named "Youth Adriatic Lab", that will discuss and reflect on issues related to Youth Policies processes and on opportunities (funds and experiences) offered by EU for young people. Each Youth Forum at local level names a representative in charge for taking part in the "Youth Adriatic Lab". A person of the administrative staff identified and named in each partner's internal document in attachment, has the role of supporting the youth representatives to manage the local network and take part in the international network (Youth Adriatic Lab);
2. Promote forms of international youth mobility in the Adriatic area;
3. Exchange information and experiences that are relevant to youth policy with the other partners;
4. Take part in an annual meeting between political decision-makers (Adriatic Conference on Youth Policies network) and representatives of young people (representatives in charge for the Youth Forum Lab). The partner in charge of organising the First annual event is the Province of Gorizia as Lead Partner of the "Youth AdriNet" project, which accepted the coordination of the network for a follow up of the project actions until December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. After this date the network of the Political Decision Makers will name another partner as coordinator and establish the rules for the rotation of the network coordination;
5. Implement a database of young people and associations that, during the "Youth AdriNet" project, took part in the training process, the AdriBus and the local events in order to allow the network and its members to contact and involve the people and organizations for other

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<sup>2</sup> Referring to the Italian "Provinces" the present commitment depends on the possible changes of their responsibilities and competences relating to future reform of the existing laws.

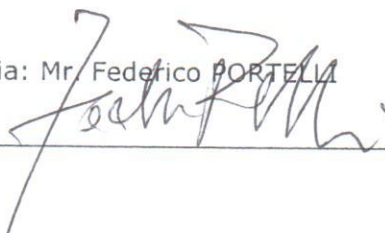
European projects and initiatives. The Province of Gorizia is in charge of this task until the end of the project;

6. Try to build new cross-border projects with the same partners (both institutional and technical) involved in the "Youth AdriNet" project to continue the present experience.

Pula, 17<sup>th</sup> December 2013

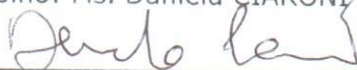
On behalf of:

Lead Beneficiary, Province of Gorizia: Mr. Federico PORTELLA



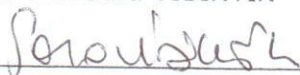
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PP1, Province of Pesaro-Urbino: Ms. Daniela CIARONI



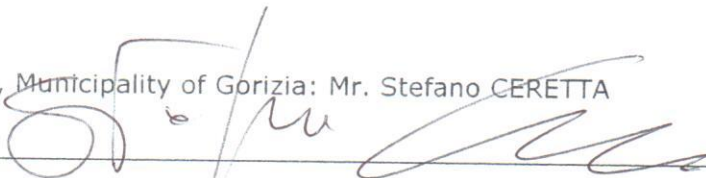
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PP3, Municipality of Rimini: Ms. Sara VISINTIN



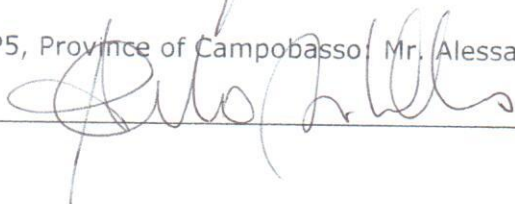
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PP4, Municipality of Gorizia: Mr. Stefano CERETTA



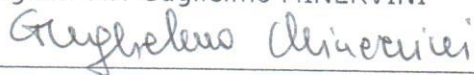
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PP5, Province of Campobasso: Mr. Alessandro DI LABBIO



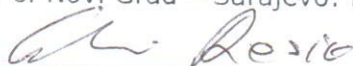
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PP7, Apulia Region: Mr. Guglielmo MINERVINI



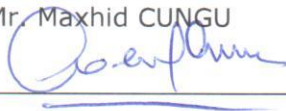
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PP8, Municipality of Novi Grad – Sarajevo: Mr. Elvir RESIĆ



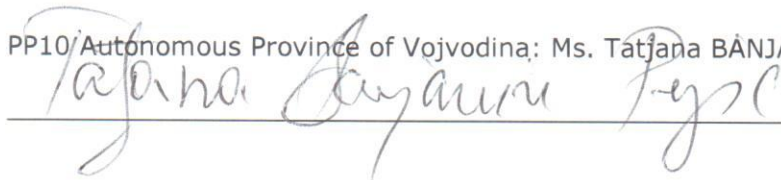
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PP9, Regional Council of Shkoder: Mr. Mr. Maxhid CUNGU



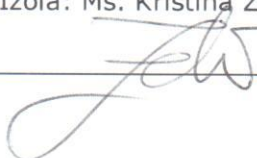
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PP10 Autonomous Province of Vojvodina: Ms. Tatjana BÂNJANIN REJIĆ



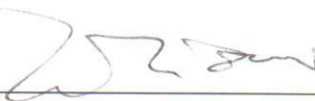
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PP11 Municipality of Izola: Ms. Kristina ZELIČ



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PP12 City of Dubrovnik: Mr. Miho KATIČIĆ



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PP13 City of Pula: Mr. Fabrizio RADIN



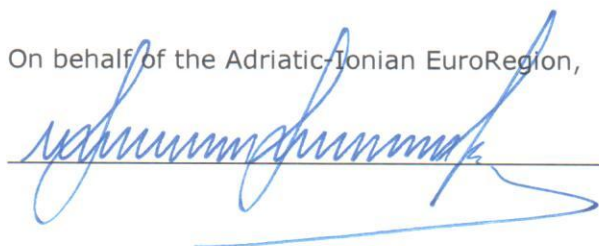
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**ASSUMPTION OF RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRESENT DOCUMENT BY  
THE ADRIATIC-IONIAN EUROREGION**

The undersigned representative of the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion undertakes the above Memorandum of Understanding and the Guide Lines of the "Youth AdriNet" project, committing the Adriatic-Ionian Euroregion to use these documents for developing Youth active policies within the whole area of the Adriatic-Ionian EuroRegion.

*Pola, 17<sup>th</sup> December 2013*

On behalf of the Adriatic-Ionian EuroRegion,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a series of loops and a long horizontal stroke at the bottom.

(signature)



## **ADDENDUM TO THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE PROMOTION OF A COMMON FRAMEWORK OF REFERENCES FOR YOUTH POLICIES IN THE ADRIATIC AREA**

The technical partners of the "Youth AdriNet" project funded by the Adriatic IPA Cross Border Cooperation programme 2007-2013, represented by their legal representatives who sign the present document and identified as:

- PP2 Informest - Service and Documentation Centre for International Economic Cooperation, **President Ms. Silvia ACERBI**
- PP6 ForSer – Formazione e servizi per la pubblica amministrazione, **Director Mr. Daniele GORTAN**

### **HAVE CONSIDERED**

- the Political Decision-Makers' Agenda approved by the partners in Sarajevo on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2012;
- the Guidelines produced as the final output of the project;
- the experience gained during the project Youth Adrinet;

### **RECOGNIZE**

the importance of the strategic objectives, priorities and methodological principles listed in the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the "Youth AdriNet" project Partners for the promotion of a common framework of references for youth policies in the Adriatic area.

### **Commitments**

The technical partners of the "Youth AdriNet" project commit to make available to the "Youth AdriNet" project Partners their specific technical competences in order to support future actions undertaken by the "Youth AdriNet" project Partners for the implementation of the present memorandum of understanding.



## IN PARTICULAR

**Informest**, with its twenty-year-experience in the field of EU funded project attainment and management and as well as its wide and diversified international network, commits to supporting "Youth AdriNet" project partners in:

1. researching and identifying funding opportunities provided by the EU and other international donors;
2. drafting project proposals to be submitted under calls for proposals of the EU and of other international donors;
3. enlarging the "Youth AdriNet" network.

**ForSer**, with its experience developed since 2000 in training activities for adults, for trainers in particular in the field of Public Administration and in supporting public administrations in managing innovative projects both at local and international level, commits to support "Youth AdriNet" project Partners in:

1. researching and identifying training opportunities and funds for young people, trainers and youth experts;
2. drafting, developing, managing training projects concerning trainers, political decision-makers, youth experts and any other subject acting within the public administrations in the concerned area and in other areas where the "Youth AdriNet" network will be acting;
3. enlarging the "Youth AdriNet" network.

Both **Informest and ForSer** commit themselves to join the "Youth AdriNet" project Partners in international partnerships of projects aimed at promoting youth policies in the Adriatic area. In the framework of these partnerships, Informest and ForSer will support other partners with their specific technical competences.

On behalf of:

PP2 Informest, Ms. Silvia ACERBI

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PP6 ForSer; Mr. Daniele GORTAN

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