

Notes about the contributors

Nynoshka Fecunda has been living in Holland for 13 years. She was born and grew up on the sunny Island of Curacao, Dutch Antilles (Caribbean Sea). For the past 11 years she has been actively involved in international youth work. She has also worked as a freelance trainer for the Council of Europe. She is self-employed and works in the fields of consultancy, training and research focusing on the subjects of diversity (intercultural/gender) and skills-management. Her work is based on scientific knowledge as well as personal experience in travelling to various European countries (with her daughter), as a black woman and mother, and working with different organisations, with different histories, organisational structures and traditions of dealing with people of different background and/or colour.

Miguel Angel Garcia Lopez comes from Spain and lives in Germany. He works as a free lance trainer, writer and translator. He was for three years the European Secretary of JECI-MIEC (International Young Catholic Students). As a member of the Trainers Pool of the European Youth Centres, he has been part of the team of several study sessions and training courses held in the European Youth Centres.

Reet Kost has worked as head of the Estonian Youth For Europe Agency since the establishment of the agency in Tallinn in 1997. Before that she worked as a youth commissioner dealing with training of youth workers and international project management for a regional government for six years. At present, Reet is also finishing her law studies at the university, and is proud of it.

Leen Laconte studied Comparative Cultural Studies in Ghent. She developed The Imagination, a national project on youth-(sub)culture, the arts and multicultural society. After that she was a lecturer and tutor in a school for social workers (or Sociale Hogeschool). At present she works as a project officer for the Flemish Youth for Europe Agency in Belgium.

Peter Merry is a freelance trainer, practitioner and consultant. He works in the fields of intercultural learning, group facilitation, conflict management, the citizen and green issues, among others. He specialises in participative education for transformation, which includes the interactive methods of the Theatre of the Oppressed. His experience extends to many different types of organisation Europe-wide, as well as having spent a year teaching English in rural Ghana. He has a background in theatre, human ecology and modern languages. He has also been seen brandishing a guitar and harmonica, to accompany highly subversive lyrics....

Sonja Mitter lives in Strasbourg where she works at the Youth Directorate of the Council of Europe. She studied English and American studies and history in Germany and in the U.S. As a member of the educational team of the European Youth Centres since 1995, she regularly organises and helps to run study sessions with various youth organisations and is part of training teams for international training courses organised by the EYCs. She has been particularly involved in projects dealing with intercultural learning, Euro-Mediterranean youth dialogue and youth work in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the development of the partnership on European Youth Worker training between the Council of Europe and the European Commission.

Carol-Ann Morris has been the Officer for membership services and training at the European Youth Forum secretariat in Brussels since December 1998. Her background is in counselling psychology. After graduating she used the latter as a basis for her training and project work with international and local development organisations in India and the UK (1995-1998).

Andrey Ozharovskii is a nuclear physicist by training. He is a leader of the Russian NGO International Discussion Club - Moscow (IDC).

Major Charly Pauwels was born in Germany while his father, also an officer, was a member of the military force that occupied that country after World War II. He joined the army 25 years ago and moved 15 times with his family to several

places in Belgium and Germany. He completed two missions in former Yugoslavia and is now preparing to go to Kosovo. Besides his Dutch mother tongue, he learned to speak, read and write French, English, German and Serbian during his career. He lives with his second wife in a small town in Belgium called Leopoldsburg. Together they take care of four daughters and one son.

Patrick Penninckx has been a tutor and trainer at the Youth Directorate of the Council of Europe since 1999, where he currently co-ordinates the educational team and programme. He is also in charge of the co-operation with the European Commission in the field of European Youth Worker Training.

Sofiko Shubladze studied social psychology and has a degree in human resources management. During the last 5 years she has been working as a trainer/facilitator and researcher on various projects in the field of conflict management. Currently, she is the director of the Centre 'Partners for Democratic Change - Partners-Georgia', which is an NGO that aims to promote civil society and advance a culture of conflict and change management in Georgia and the South Caucasus Region. Under the programmes of Partners-Georgia she has conducted several training events on various change and conflict management skills during the past 2 years.

Mark Taylor works as a freelance trainer and writer. Until 1993, he worked for four years (1986-89) at the Youth Exchange Centre, London, as development and training officer, and then three years (1990-92) at the European Youth Centre, Strasbourg, as a tutor. Since then he has worked throughout Europe for a wide range of organisations, institutions, agencies and businesses, acting as co-ordinator, trainer, supervisor of teams, or general rapporteur. He has long experience in writing publications for an international public. Major areas of work: intercultural learning, international team work, human rights education, training for trainers, constructive internet use, international youth projects.

Felisa Tibbitts is Director of Human Rights Education Associates (HREA), an international organisation dedicated to promoting human rights themes in education and training activities. Felisa has worked since 1992 in Central and Eastern Europe primarily, working with educational agencies and human rights groups to develop curriculum and teaching materials in the human rights and democratic citizenship education field. Felisa's new area of interest is information technologies, the results of which can be found at <http://www.hrea.org>

Gavan Titley lives in Dublin. He is currently working on a Ph.D. in the Centre for Intercultural Studies, Dublin City University, and teaches there and for Boston University. His main area of work is communications and issues of cultural identity, with a focus on the Caribbean and Central America. Forthcoming publications include work on tourism and intercultural perspectives, and media/development education. As a freelance trainer he works regularly for the European Youth Centres and with diverse organisations. He co-founded Beyond the Mask with Peter Merry in 1997, and since then they have worked throughout Europe on using theatre in conflict resolution and intercultural learning. They have found this useful while sharing a tent for long periods.

Caroline Vink is the head of the National Agency of Youth for Europe and European Voluntary Service in the Netherlands. Since 1999 she has been involved in European youth work through the Dutch youth council and CENYC and later in the European youth programmes. Her interest and experience are especially focused on non-formal education and training, intercultural learning and youth policy.