

Welcome to Coyote !

Are you interested in knowing more about Europe and its neighbouring regions? This issue of Coyote takes you on journeys to the south-eastern parts of Europe and beyond, to Central Asia and North Africa, to discover some of their civil societies and, in particular, the associative youth life in these regions.

Exploring the reality of a particular region or country and highlighting some interests and challenges for work in terms of training approaches and contents is the theme of several articles and constitutes a particular focus of this Coyote. How can training and youth work help to act against the isolation of a country like Algeria (see Sylvie Floris' article)? How can it provide young people with an opportunity to use their energy and motivation to work towards change in a society like Georgia where professional opportunities are limited for many (see Coyote Meets Trainers)? What importance do painful collective memories play in Europe, in particular in a region suffering from conflicts like the Balkans, and what space is there for dealing with participants' memories in training courses in this region (see Jean-Philippe Restoueix's article)? And, as a trainer coming from outside the region where you run a training, how can you make yourself understood in a foreign cultural context such as Central Asia, and how adaptable are the concepts and methods we use (see Corinne Grassi's article)? These are some of the questions that the different authors pursue in their articles which also underline the importance to support youth work and intercultural encounters in those regions.

Intercultural youth work, both local and international, has also got to cope with the aftermath of the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington and the subsequent "war on terrorism". These articles (together with Mac Maistrelli's piece) give us all food for thought here.

As always, Coyote also stands for diversity. So this issue also contains articles that are less focused on a particular country or region, but rather issue-based or presenting a training method or methodology. Because all good things should come to an end and give rise to new ideas, we are starting off a new method section in this issue: "Telling Tales", looking at the use of stories in training, replaces "Where do you stand?".

Lastly, Coyote continues to keep you updated about current institutional developments with some impressions of this year's first series of SALTO-YOUTH training courses, and an introduction to the new Partnership training courses. "Spiffy's Spots" provides you with related web sites or information that the Coyote team has found useful.

Coyote has now been published six times (starting with issue #0) and many people involved in training in youth work from all over Europe have contributed to the magazine. The Coyote team is always on the lookout for new contributors. Yet, conversations with readers keep reminding us that often enough, people are not sure how they can contribute and if they should get in touch or rather wait until they are contacted for an article. Coyote wants to be an instrument for networking and visibility among trainers, institutions and organisations working with training. Clearly, the Coyote team selects the articles to be published in this magazine. But naturally, our contacts and knowledge about potential contributors, resources and ideas are limited. So, if you enjoy reading Coyote and would like to write an article: Please contact any member of the Coyote team and let us know! Your ideas for contributions are always welcome! (You can find the e-mail addresses in the Notes about the Contributors).

A big thank you to all those who completed the evaluation questionnaire that was sent out with Coyote's last issue! The results are being assessed and your ideas will be taken into account in following issues.

A final piece of information together with an apology to our readers who have been reading Coyote in French until now. From this issue on, Coyote will only be published in English. The articles in this issue by Sylvie Floris, Corinne Grassi and Jean-Philippe Restoueix have originally been written in French. The French versions are included in the web version of the magazine at www.training-youth.net.

Happy New Year & Enjoy your reading!

Soyja Ritter

