


# LDA YOUTH CENTRE NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER—DECEMBER 2012

Local Democracy Centre LDA in Niš - LDA Niš (Centar lokalne demokratije) was established in 2001 as a part of ALDA network (Association of Local Democracy Agencies). Our main fields of activities are: *capacity building for local authorities and civil society, local economic development and youth.*



 OMLADINSKI CENTAR - LDA / YOUTH CENTRE LDA

## SLOVAK EVS VOLUNTEER IN NIS

LDA is hosting a new EVS volunteer from Slovakia, Jana Kandl. She will be in Nis until April.

« After lovely summer, travelling across the Balkans, exploring Belgrade, I have moved to Niš, changed organization. I had 10 magnificent days in Slovakia and spent 18 hours on the way back to Serbia. One Saturday, I went to take some photographs and when I woke up the next morning, late as usual, but it was Sunday, listening to music,

reading the never-ending Burroughs. I took a shower and discovered I had a TICK ! I found the hospital just by heart—let's say skills. The doctor came to me with a nurse, a needle and a magnifier glass, the result : the head is not there ! Walking back home, I was thinking about my EVS experience, stopping by a shop, buying caramels (I've been a good and brave girl). Few days ago, I had a conversation with Marion, the other volunteer, we finished by a sentence, I could use it like a definition of Serbia : it seems worse than it is. I love it here. »



The winning article was written by Remzika Salijević, a 20 years-old woman from Nis, currently doing a European Voluntary Service in Portugal.



## COMPETITION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ARTICLES

Do You Agree With Gay Couples Adopting Children ?

From my point of view, why not?

Bigots who consider members of the LGBT community as less than human, or at least unworthy of attention! These people are the hardest to convince to accept gay rights. The important thing isn't that homosexuality is right or not, is it by birth or by choice, or is a "disease" or not. The important thing is that these people can't change! Once you realize that they are like you and have the same rights as you is easy to be explained why gay marriage!

How important is a wedding? If people love each other, they actually don't need one, some might say. Why did you get married then? So you won't marry? If you are one of those who believe in the union, you have the right to decide whether to marry or not, so why not them?

There are those who say: "Yes, it's ok to marry if they want, but they shouldn't be able to adopt. For what is the child guilty of? Of having gay moms or dads? Does it affect the children?"

There are many examples of people that grow in "abnormal" families. Children of divorced parents, children of widows, children of two different marriages. What is the difference between a gay family and between a "dysfunctional" one? What is the difference between having only one parent and having two parents? If we tolerate marriages where the drunken father beats the mother in front of the children, why not one where both parents have to respect and love their child? What if the child is never adopted, will he ever receive quality education, careness and love?

To protect the children we should let gay couples adopt too! Why not if we are all created by God, whether we are straight, gay, black, white, green, or purple, we should all be equal, God doesn't judge. Humans do!

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The project, created and implemented by Dusan Kilic and Marion Poullain, aimed at raising awareness of youngsters about issues as Fascism and anti-Semitism. In the context of 9th of November, international day against Fascism and Anti-Semitism, LDA and CRCR proposed a workshop in a High school of Nis. This activity also aimed at fulfill the « duty of memory », that is to make youngsters learn from the previous mistakes of Human kind.

## ANTIFASCIST WORKSHOPS



CENTAR ZA  
RAZVOJ  
CIVILNH  
RESURSA

## SERBIAN EVS VOLUNTEERS IN PORTUGAL

Two Serbian youngsters, Marko Radulovic and Remzika Saljević, are currently doing their EVS in Lisbon, Portugal. I experience that I want to convey to colleagues who work in education sector.



### Marko, why did you choose Associação Mais Cidadania?

I choose it because in this organization I have access to non-formal education in one EU country. For the past few years, I have been inspired by humanitarian work with children and young people, this is also a way to be more successful in pedagogical area [Marko is a teacher].

### How do you feel in Portugal ? Is it a lot different from Serbia ?

It is an amazing country. In the beginning, I felt the cultural differences but now I really fall in love with this city. I met a lot of people thanks to the volunteering sphere and every day life. I am very sorry that my project is going to end soon. But I am very happy to be back with a great experience.



### What are you doing in your organization ? What are your tasks ?

First, I go to schools and spend time with kids. Also, I participate in the workshops with students and there I learn about non-formal education. I am also part of the program that distribute food, clothes and accessories to poor people. My last task, at my request, is PSP program (in cooperation with the Lisbon Police), I am working with the disabled people and I can there see how Portuguese people overcome difficulties with disabled and old people.

### EDITORIAL TEAM :

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Projects to come in 2013: survey about tolerance in Serbia, French conversation classes, workshops about how to make CV and motivation letter for EVS, short movies projection... And many more ! :)



Youth  
in Action

