



INTER ALIA

Civic Action Meeting Point

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



Foreword

For the core of Inter Alia team - Nikos, Nikos and Boyka – 2015 was a year when most of the aspirations and dreams that led to the establishment of the organization back in 2013, came true. Inter Alia grew significantly in outreach, network and visibility; it became more accessible through the opening of our office in Athens and attracted new people and collaborators. An important accomplishment and an added-value to the schedule for 2015 was that both Inter Alia branches the think-tank and the civic action meeting point were developed evenly and that all tools for action–analysis, debate, networking, research-were put to intense use. At the same time, in a traumatic year for the Greek society and economy with two election rounds and a national referendum, growing uncertainty and economic stagnation aggravated by capital controls and negative international publicity our organization managed to become economically viable.



We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all those who contributed to our projects and invite you in this “trip” to Inter Alia’s most important moments of 2015. Thank you all for the support and trust in our work. We are looking forward to a year even better and more successful in Greece, in Europe and in the world.

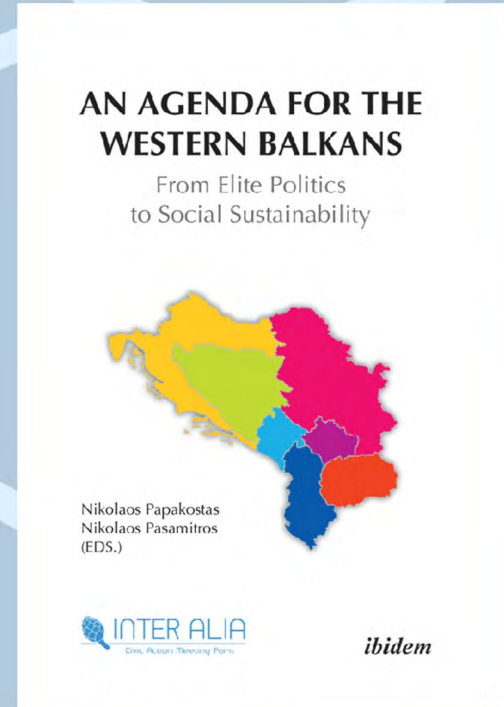
Our sincerest wishes,
Inter Alia team

January 2015

January 10

An Agenda for the Western Balkans – Book Launch

Inter Alia's second collective volume was internationally launched by Ibidem Verlag (distribution by Columbia University Press). An Agenda for the Western Balkans includes ten academic research pieces from different disciplines - geography, political science, international relations, sociology, political economy, cultural studies - focusing on diverse aspects of Western Balkans' politics and society. Big thanks to our high-caliber authors: Dr. Bilge Yabanci, Jennider Titanski-Hooper, Dr. Miruna Troncota, Dr. Nicholas Rossis, Dr. Tonka Konstantinova, Anastas Vangeli, Dr. Alma Vardari-Kesler and Dr. Tom Phillips as well as the book's commissioning editor, Max Jacob Horstman, of Ibidem Verlag. You can order the volume directly from Inter Alia.



January 16

“Wir sind das Volk” vs. “Je suis Charlie”

Dr. Giorgos Monogioudis (PhD research at School of Slavonic and East-European Studies, University College London) provided an insightful comparison of grassroots movements in Germany and France following the attacks at Charlie Hebdo in Paris in January 2015. In his analysis, Monogioudis highlighted the threat of pro-tolerance initiatives such as “Je Suis Charlie” being equated with xenophobic ones like PEDIGA in Dresden and, thus, finding a place in the mainstream public discourse.



**JE SUIS
CHARLIE**

February 2015

February 18-26

Compass Human Rights Education for Youth

Training Course for Youth Workers organized by ASAP Europe in Fasano, Italy under Key Action 1 – Learning mobility of individuals of the Erasmus+ programme. Ritsa, Fanis and Antonis represented us and had a life-changing experience.



February 20-28

The Young Side of the Moon



Inter Alia is one of the 7 partners in the Capacity Building Project introducing Project Cycle Management for Youth workers. In February, a Training Course was organized by PRISM in Caltanissetta, Italy. Inter Alia was represented by a team of 7 – Maira Latta, Diana Batraka, Debbie Theodosiou, Maria Giapitzaki, Nikos Papakostas, Nikos Pasamitros and Boyka Boneva.

February 22-28

Peace Building and Social Cohesion

Training Course for Youth Workers organized by Experiment in International Living in Worcester, UK under Key Action 1 – Learning mobility of individuals of the Erasmus+ programme. Two of Inter Alia's collaborators, Dr. Nicholas Rossis and Paul Zoumbouloglou joined the TC and acquired skills and competences on non-violent communication as an instrument for social cohesion and community building.



March 2015

March 5 Rights as Rain

Inter Alia organized the "Rights as Rain" event in Athens, Greece in the framework of its participation in the European Youth Citizen Position, strategic partnership under Key Action 2 Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices of the Erasmus+ programme. The American students of the Arcadia University along with Inter Alia's participants explored the issue of Human Rights through non-formal education activities and a simulation game. The one-day event ended with a buffet provided by the Arcadia Center.



March 7-15

SPORT PLUS: LOOKING UP NEW GOALS, Second edition

Training Course for Youth Workers organized by Proposito Inadiavel in Marvão, Portugal under KA1 of the Erasmus+ programme. SPLUS II was designed to provide participants with skills and knowledge on new ways to use sport as an educational tool for the promotion of social inclusion.



It raised awareness about the EU and its measures in the field of sport, thus providing participants with competences necessary for the development of youth and sport projects. The training stimulated the creation of synergies and networks between the fields of youth and sport, through the active involvement of the participants and their sending organizations into the implementation of the project.

March 25

An Agenda for the Western Balkans – Book Presentation

Nikos Papakostas and Nikos Pasamitros, editors of Inter Alia's collective volume "An Agenda for the Western Balkans. From Elite Politics to Social Sustainability", presented the book at the Master's course in Southeast European Studies of the University of Athens. The collective venture was presented in a mixed audience of MA students, visitors and University of Athens faculty members who gave their input and opinions on the region's present and future.



For Inter Alia, there was hardly any better place to start its effort for promoting the volume, as the MA in Southeast European studies was in a way, what started it all; not only for the book but for Inter Alia as a whole – as two of the organization's founding members met there in 2007.

April 2015

April 20-28

The Young Side of the Moon



Youth workers and project managers from PRISM – Promozone Internazionale Sicilia-Mondo and Inter Alia were hosted for a job shadowing in Ziguinchor, Senegal by Federation DimbayaKagnalen. The job shadowing was realized in the framework of the project “The Young side of the Moon” organized under KA2 – Capacity Building in the field of Youth of the Erasmus+ programme.

April 27

Shaping Europe - Civic Education in Action



Analysis by Dr. Giorgos Monogioudis (PhD research at School of Slavonic and East-European Studies, University College London) on the scholarship programme of the German Federal Agency for Civic Education (BpB) and Robert Bosch Foundation at Haus am Maiberg in Heppenheim (October 2014 –May 2015).

April 30

HR for Human Rights

Inter Alia organized the "HR for Human Rights" event in Athens, Greece on the side of the European Youth Citizen Position, strategic partnership for youth under Key Action 2 - Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices of the Erasmus+ programme. The session was realized along with Arcadia University Center in Athens and aimed to raise awareness and sensitize young people from Greece and the US on contemporary challenges related to human rights in the wake of the tragic emigrant shipwrecks in the Mediterranean Sea.



May 2015

May 6-13

Game of Challenges

Training Course for Youth Workers organized by Inter Alia in Skoulikaria, Greece under KA1 of the Erasmus+ programme. "Game of Challenges" resulted from our continuous concern and questioning about the future of Europe. In order for Europeans to overcome the current crisis united, there is a series of conceptual, social, institutional and educational issues that need to be addressed first at the level of attitudes and then at the level of structures and institutions.



The training course focused on mutual understanding and lifting stereotypes, raising awareness about available channels of action in the EU and fostering dialogue on quality learning. These needs were approached through challenging certainties on 3 basic issues which are strongly interconnected and central for Europe's current predicament: Crisis, Community & Learning.

May 9-17

CARE – Creativity and Reuse for Empowerment

Training Course for Youth Workers organized by Centro Sviluppo Creativo Danilo Dolci in Palermo, Italy under KA1 of the Erasmus+ programme. CARE was based on the theme of sustainable development and its 3 key dimensions: economic, social and environmental. Sustainability, creativity and inclusion are seen as the cornerstones to promote empowerment process. In particular, CARE aimed to promote creativity as problem solving approach and to promote creative reuse and recycling as artistic educational activity to involve young people.



May 24–31
C.O.H.E.S.I.O.N

Cultural Bridges for Youth Employability and Inclusion

Training Course for Youth Workers organized by CESIE in Palermo, Italy under KA1 of the Erasmus+ programme. COHESION aimed to empower youth workers to include ICT, creative tools and various forms of art, in the process of boosting the employability and active inclusion of migrants. The TC also aimed at empowering youth workers' own professional and personal development by enhancing their intercultural skills and competences.



COHESION gave special attention to the intercultural communication & dialogue in order to easily reach the migrant communities with innovative methods to raise their employability and sense of belonging in the respective hosting society.

May 25

Interview with Professor Pantelis Lekkas

Inter Alia's co-founder Nikos Papakostas interviewed Pantelis Lekkas, Director of Studies at the MA in Southeast European Studies - Faculty of Political Science & Public Administration, University of Athens, on the present and future, the challenges and opportunities of Southeast Europe.



May 18

The Challenge of Democracy in Greece

Eleni Stathopoulou, PhD candidate at the faculty of Political Science and History of Panteion University, in her first piece for Inter Alia looks into the quality of democracy in Greece and analyses the patterns and the reasons of growing political extremism since the eruption of the economic crisis.



June 2015

June 22-27

Youth Work in Lebanon and Cultural Identities: Diversity of Communities: Richness or...?

Dr. Nicholas Rossis conducted field research in the context of EuroMed Youth Programme IV. Given the enormity of the complexities of the Lebanese social stratification and the sectarian plurality of the country the study visit thoroughly encapsulated in a rather short period of time a quite diverse sample of NGOs, organizations and agencies ranging from institutional efforts to grassroots initiatives of confessional and secular character at local or international level.



The visit definitely exposed some of the malignancies, the challenges and the potential areas of development regarding youth work in the perpetually agitated Lebanese society within the multifarious political and religious mosaic.

July 2015

July 25–August 8 European Youth Weeks

Inter Alia participated in the INTERNATIONAL YOUTH MEETING - organized by Haus-am-Maiberg, Heppenheim, Germany. The Project was supported by the Erasmus+ programme and the state of Hessen, Germany. Giorgos (team leader), Konstantinos, Alexandra and Konstantina participated in the 2-weeks long project that aimed to promote non-formal learning based on self-reflection and self-expression.



August 2015

August 1

Ask the Locals!

Enhancing Resource Accessibility through Local Empowerment

"Ask the Locals!" funded by the Europe for Citizens programme of the EU was officially launched. ALO! is a civic project focusing on stories of EU resource abuse in countries which are considered particularly prone to corruption. It uses informal networks in small communities of partner countries (Greece, Italy, Bulgaria, Romania, F.Y.R. Macedonia, and Serbia) in order to gather and record information on patterns of fund-abuse and then use it for empowering the losing side of corruption.

More about the project at:
www.askthelocals.eu



August 24-31 2-Gether-As-1

Inter Alia was represented by Maira (team leader), Konstantina, Konstantina, Dimitris, Leonidas, and Angelos in the youth exchange organized by theDojo.org.uk at Hertfordshire, UK under KA1 of the Erasmus+ programme. Participants were trained in using martial arts and the principles that they abide by for social sensitization and personal development.



September 2015

September 1 Boulding's Image Theory Meets Greek Drama

In this analysis Nikos Pasamitros, co-founder of Inter Alia and a PhD candidate at Panteion University, discussed ideology, images and intra-EU polarization drawing examples from the Greek crisis and its representation in local and international media.



September 1-9
YES!

How to become Young Entrepreneurs for Social innovation

Inter Alia was one of the partners in the youth exchange organized by Go Europe in Valencia, Spain under KA1 of the Erasmus+ programme. Our all-girls team, made up by Alexia, Emmanouela, Marina, Paraskevi (group leader) and Sandy, learned about social initiatives, entrepreneurship and youth NGOs.



The models and good practices of social and entrepreneurial ideas were analysed and, subsequently, they acquired knowledge on how to:

- 1) Set down viable plans for such ideas
- 2) Come up with rational implementation strategies and cost estimates
- 3) Convince and 'sell' the idea to relevant parties, such as investors, governmental institutions or youth NGOs
- 4) How to present it



September 8-15

I-COACH: Intercultural Coaching for Youth Workers

Training Course for Youth Workers organized by ASAP Europe in Fasano, Italy under KA1 of the Erasmus+ programme. The training's main objective was to increase coaching competencies of youth workers who work with socially marginalized youngsters.

Active listening, asking the right question, giving and receiving feedback were some of the concepts that were explored during the training.



September 11-15th International Youth Conference European Values for the Future of South East Europe

Nikos Papakostas followed up on his participation in the 13th International Youth Conference organized by Youth Alliance in Krusevo, FYR Macedonia with an analytical report that aims to provide some tentative thoughts on sociological and behavioral patterns of Balkan youth along with the potentials and challenges that these bring along.



September 23 – October 2

VOTE - Voice of Teenagers in Europe



Inter Alia was represented by a team of 8 students of the 3rd high-school of Arta Marios, Konstantina, Stathis, Alexandros, Konstantina-Eleni, Konstantina-Maria, Stavros, Christos and their teachers Evangelia and Sapfo in the youth exchange, organized by the high-school in Kilingi-Nõmme, Estonia under KA1 of the Erasmus+ programme.

The VOTE project brought together 30 youngsters from 3 European countries: the Czech Republic, Greece and Estonia with the aim of cultivating and enhancing participants' political responsibility, citizenship awareness and employability.



October 2015

October 2-5

Migrations, Integration and Co-development in Europe

Inter Alia was present at the second meeting of project partners of the “Migrations, Integration and Co-development in Europe” project organized by PRISM under the Europe for Citizens programme of the EU. Nikos Papakostas and Jenny Mazi met and discussed with immigrants and refugees, shared thoughts, experiences and good practices with project partners and raised awareness about the ongoing situation in Greece, the Aegean and the Mediterranean.



**MIGRATIONS,
INTEGRATION AND
CO-DEVELOPMENT IN EUROPE**

October 3-11

Committed to the Future Leadership of Youth Organizations of Rural Areas

Training Course for Youth Workers organized by Proposito Indiavel in Portalegre, Portugal under KA1 of the Erasmus+ programme. Inter Alia's Boyka Boneva was a trainer while we were also represented by Maria Makri and Kosmas Subashi. The project brought together youth workers and young leaders from Portugal, Austria, Italy, Estonia, Bulgaria, Romania, Hungary and Greece and aimed at improving their leadership skills while debating on the topic of what is rural area and how to empower youngsters living there.



October 6-9

Next step for youth mobility



Nikos Pasamitros and Ioanna Kyriazi participated in the Partnership Building Activity organized by Eurocircle at Marseille, France under KA1 of the Erasmus+ programme.

November 2015

November 1 – December 23 : Zoe Stambolliu



Inter Alia's first in-house intern Zoe Stambolliu completed her internship and in a short period got a brief view on Project Design and Management, Social Media and Non-profit organizations management.

November 2 -12 Experiencing Leadership

Aleka and Yannis represented Inter Alia in the youth exchange organized by the.Dojo.org.uk at Little Gaddesden, UK under KA1 of the Erasmus+ programme. The project emphasized on cultivating behaviors that would allow participants to view people as the main substance for business success. The main idea of this approach is that if your employees are satisfied and they respect you, then they will follow you and your orders no matter the cost. Participants also learned about different categories of people concerning their personal characteristics and the way they act given that understanding people is a crucial ability and also a must-have skill for a good and efficient leader.



November 5-12

Love Me Gender

A group of 4 youth workers (Eleni, Ioanna, Rena and Reveka) represented Inter Alia at the Training organized by SOS Diritti e Legalita in Zagarolo, Italy. There they challenged various gender stereotypes and socially established norms, resulting in the revision of personal views and understanding.



November 7-10

Ask the Locals! Kick-off Meeting

The project partners held a series of meetings regarding the upcoming phases of "ALO! – Enhancing Resource Accessibility through Local Empowerment". Project managers from partner organizations Todor Yalamov (Center for the Study of Democracy), Petar Zmak (Civic Initiatives), Marian Damoc (Romanian Youth Movement for Democracy), Anelija Mitrova (Youth Alliance), Alessandro Melillo (PRISM) along with Nikos Papakostas, Boyka Boneva and Nikos Pasamitros of Inter Alia discussed in detail the structure of the project. They analyzed the methodology foreseen, the involved communities and their characteristics, the logistics and financial aspects of cooperation, the profile and criteria for choice of the working groups, the exact tools for action during the project phases, the documentary production and the visibility and dissemination strategy.



November 10-15

Ask the Locals! Capacity Building Activity

Inter Alia and its 5 project partners held a Capacity Building Activity aiming to train participants for the upcoming phases of the Ask the Locals! project. 30 persons from 6 countries (and 10 different nationalities) participated in the second action of the ALO! at the remote village of Skoulikaria, Greece. The whole team of 30 was made up of 6 working groups that will implement the following phases and actions of the project.



The CBA moved along 3 axes:

- a) Information and details regarding the project
- b) Corruption-related challenges in partner countries
- c) Preparation for the upcoming phases.

Participants were informed about the aims and structure of the project as well as working methods, tools and deliverables. Next, participants worked on the topic of corruption and fund abuse.

Through formal and non-formal learning activities, they received different inputs about common challenges and potential responses. In order to get a clearer idea about specificities of local agency against corruption, participants met with Periklis Migdos, the mayor of the municipality of Georgios Karaiskakis, while they also discussed some of the issues of the region with Ioannis Papalexis, the former mayor of the city of Arta and the local business consultant, Emily Kokkineli.



The day in Arta also included a public discussion with local citizens about the project and a local-band concert organized in the framework of the ALO! project. In the final phase, together with the project managers of Inter Alia, participants analyzed the process of field research, the documentary production and the awareness campaign and discussed various possible ideas for disseminating the results and ways to meet potential obstacles that might occur during the ALO! project.



November 23 – December 1

Food 4 Youth

A team of 5 youngsters and their group leader travelled to Valencia to learn and experience Lifelong Healthy Eating Habits among Youth. In the course of the Youth Exchange, organized by GoEurope under KA1 of the Erasmus+ Programme, they managed to broaden their horizons, to learn more about the topic but also to become friends.



December 2015

December 1

Medical literature:

Time for Absolving the Burden of Fraud

Insights on medical literature and ethical standards of academic research by Artemis Vekrakou, trainee in anesthesiology and a PhD candidate at the University of Athens.

December 5-13

EIRENE, European IntercultuRal Education towards a New Era of Understanding

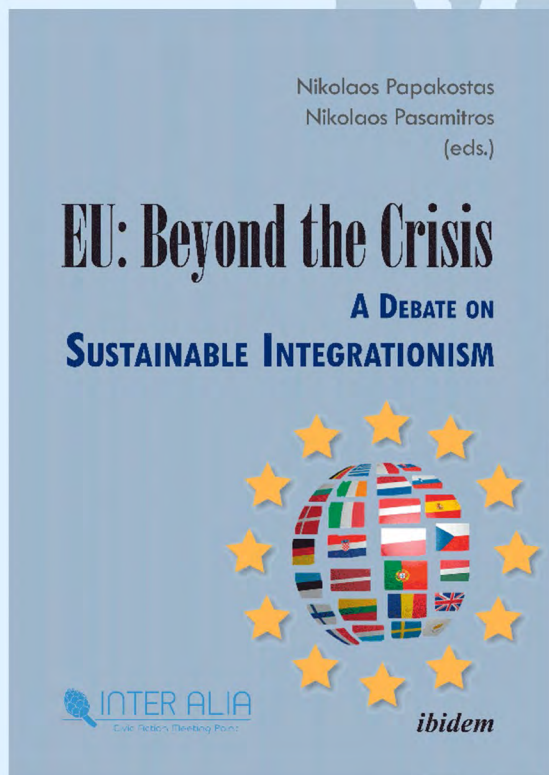


Inter Alia was one of the 19 partners in the EIRENE Training Course organized by CESIE in Palermo, Italy (KA1, Mobility of Youth Workers under the Erasmus+ Programme), where 44 participants from the Western Balkans and other European countries came together to discuss and experience the Cooperative and Peaceful approach as a life-attitude. In only 8 working days they learned about the Non-Violent Communication, the Reciprocal Maieutic Approach of Danilo Dolci, the elements of Conflict and ways to analyse it, while they also acquired negotiation and communication skills. They also managed to prepare a Log-book of their experiences which will be available online in the Spring of 2016.

December 12

EU: Beyond the crisis.

A debate on sustainable integrationism



The final manuscript of the upcoming (third) collective volume managed by Inter Alia was submitted. Nikos Papakostas & Nikos Pasamitros are the editors of the inspiring works of Dr. Alba Ferreri, Dr. Emmanuel Sigalas, Max Luggert, prof. George Kritikos, Dr. Anna-Lena Hogenauer, Asimakis Tamouratzis, Dr. Apostolos Agnantopoulos, Nikos Pasamitros and Vasilliki Delli on the future of the European Union beyond the crisis which will be published by IbidemVerlag. Those interested can pre-order through Inter Alia.

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