



RESTORATIVE CIRCLES for Citizens in Europe

Invitation to Participate

Do you think we need innovative solutions to social crisis in Europe?

Do you want to take part in finding these solutions?

*Let's get together and experiment with new approaches,
share ideas and discuss hot topics at an international conference in Budapest!*

Bridging Polarities

Alternative Approaches of Dealing with Social Crisis in Europe

Our international team of circle keepers invites you to join the dialogue and take part in the restorative circle process. **We also invite you to participate with your alternative method and offer a two hour workshop in which you demonstrate alternative ways of communication, community building and dispute resolution.**

The first day of the two-day conference is designed to demonstrate the restorative circle process in one large circle and a number of smaller circles. In the small circles circle keepers will use the talking piece to discuss hot topics related to one's national and EU citizenship. The national coordinators of the RCCE (Restorative Circles for Citizens in Europe) project will share their experiences regarding a series of 6 circle weekends in 9 EU cities with participants holding polarized views. On the second day of the conference participants will have a chance to declare their topics of interest in a "barcamp", and we will allow the issues and the methods to combine in a series of facilitated workshops. We will include guest facilitators to conduct workshops applying alternative methods that deal with relevant social issues.

We hereby request that you contribute to the conference by introducing your method and holding a two-hour workshop on September 23, 2017.

Suggested topics for the workshops: anything related to a group of people, a community, your country, or Europe; addressed through an innovative method or a method related to the following issues: communication and decision making within communities, consensus building, community organizing, dealing with or debating diverse opinions, empowerment, conflict resolution and other related processes.

The conference is co-funded by the EACEA (Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency of the European Commission). There is no registration fee for the conference participants, but conference organizers are unable to pay for travel expenses and lodging.

If you are interested please send an outline of the proposed workshop and a description of your method in no more than one page to circlespacegroup@gmail.com by August 15, 2017.

Conference date: September 22-23, 2017

Location: Budapest – [Müszki](#)

International website: circlespaceeurope.org

Hungarian website: korter.org

International facebook page: [Restorative Circles for Citizens in Europe](#)

Hungarian facebook page: [Resztoratív Körök Európáról](#)

Email: circlespacegroup@gmail.com

Partner organizations:

- Circle Space Group (KöR-TÉR Csoport), Budapest, Hungary, <http://korter.org/>
- Demostene Centro Studi per la Promozione dello Sviluppo Umano, Latiano, Italy, www.demostenecentrostudi.org
- ELTE University, Faculty of Education and Psychology, Budapest, Hungary, <http://www.ppk.elte.hu/en>
- Inter Alia, Athens, Greece, <http://www.interaliaproject.com/>
- Kreisau-Initiative e.V., Berlin, Germany, <http://www.kreisau.de/en/>
- Mellem Education, Copenhagen, Denmark, <http://www.mellemeducation.org/about/>
- Salento University, Lecce, Italy, https://international.unisalento.it/home_page

What is a restorative circle?

The restorative circle allows participants to strengthen their relationships, support each other and to find solutions to the problems of the community together. They pass around a talking piece, which allows for the holder of the object to speak, while all others listen. The method employed by our group, called the peacemaking circle (based on North American Native traditions) can be

used for healing, relationship- and community building, as well as for the resolution of conflicts, for collaborative planning, decision making and following up strategic plans.

What is a barcamp?

A barcamp is an open, participatory workshop-event that removes itself from the format of a traditional conference. All attendees are encouraged to present or facilitate a session or otherwise contribute to the event. The organizers are offering an open event in order to discuss and develop new ideas and create a new network of people. The agenda is made up of the participants' contributions and is for the most part not predetermined.



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