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PRESS RELEASE

RESTORE: REcognition of the Social Theatre Operator as a professional to tackle the Risk of social Exclusion

Project launch and kick-off meeting Dublin, 5-6 December 2019

RESTORE, an ambitious three-year project funded by the European Commission under the Erasmus+ Programme and coordinated by the Italian Association Oltre Le Parole Onlus, has been launched during a kick-off meeting held on 5th and 6th December 2019 in Dublin. The event gathered representatives from partner organisations working to promote Social and Community Theatre as an effective means for social inclusion of disadvantaged groups, coming from six European countries: Italy, Ireland, Poland, Portugal, Spain and Slovenia. The project – entitled “REcognition of the Social Theatre Operator as a professional to tackle the Risk of social Exclusion” - is aimed at promoting cooperation and the exchange of good practices at European level as well as at increasing the opportunities and employability of professionals working in the field of Social and Community Theatre.

The expected results of the project, which will be implemented from December 2019 to May 2022, include the description of the EU standard professional profile of the Social Theatre Operator, the definition of a dedicated training course and the formulation of methodological guidelines for validation, accreditation and certification at national level. RESTORE will directly benefit non-profit organisations supporting different groups of disadvantaged adult learners, professional educators and volunteers working in the field of Social and Community Theatre as well as groups at high risk of social exclusion and segregation (migrants, disabled, drug addicts, prisoners, ethnic minorities, etc.).

RESTORE will be the very first EU project dealing with the professional development of Social Theatre Operators, whose competences and skills are still not adequately recognised

in most European countries. By uniting partners from all over Europe, it will build strong capacities in the field, providing inspiration for future engagement processes to introduce a specific description of the STO in the European qualification framework. The two main elements of innovation introduced by the project consist, firstly, in its extensive approach including all possible declinations of social theatre and, secondly, in its focus on the role of non-formal education for providing training in the field. Therefore, partner organisations strongly believe in the positive long lasting impact of the project as an exceptional catalyst for social change.

The Erasmus Plus Programme

The project is funded under Key Action 2 of the programme, aimed at enabling organisations to work together in order to improve their provision for learners and share innovative practices. The projects funded under this Key Action focus on sharing, developing and transferring innovative practices in education, training and youth provision between participating countries. Key Action 2 covers the five fields of higher education, vocational education and training (VET), schools, adult education and youth. It is important to note that target groups and activities for Key Action 2 vary by field. Key Action 2 aims to increase the positive impact of European activities at all levels to ensure benefits for the individuals, organisations and countries involved in projects.

- For more information about the RESTORE project and the national partners, please visit <https://www.restore-project.com/> where you can also subscribe to the RESTORE online newsletter.
- Please visit the “[Media](#)” section of the project website for pictures and other multimedia products related to the kick-off meeting.

Contacts

For further information about the RESTORE project, please write to: info@restore-project.com.