



<http://refugeesinproject.eu>

## ABOUT THE PROJECT

*RefugeesIN* is a European Project funded by the Erasmus+ Programme, coordinated by AidLearn, Portugal and partnered by:

- Hamburger Volkshochschule, Hamburg, Germany
- Centro Studi Citta Di Foligno Associazione, Foligno, Italy
- Slovenian Third Age University, Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design & Technology, Dublin, Ireland
- Greek Council for Refugees, Athens, Greece.

Now that we are living a humanitarian calamity of historic proportions with individuals facing complex and painful processes in their adaptive pathways to European societies, films should more often convey refugees' successful stories of social inclusion. But is it really so?

Have the negative social beliefs on refugees been replaced by those of social inclusion more in tune with the evolution of multicultural societies? Are the achievements of former refugees, now well-included in EU societies, sufficiently visible to have a central modelling role for the inclusion of newcomers?

The project outputs are primarily targeted at adult educators (of refugees), adult education providers, staff and civil society organisations, adult education and social inclusion specialists, and European film experts.

The project also aims to raise public awareness about cohesive and inclusive societies, on the role of films in fostering social inclusion representations and how refugee communities can be addressed today. What about film education to this end?

*RefugeesIN* offers an innovative cinema-based Pack (with Brochure, Film Catalogue, Course and Guide) for use by professionals to encourage intercultural dialogue, combat discrimination against refugees and promote their social inclusion.

## BROCHURE:

### “FROM ESCAPE TO BELONGING”

The brochure “From Escape to Belonging” shows a collection of 26 real-life stories of (former) refugees who succeeded in their struggle to social inclusion in the societies of their new home countries. With in-depth interviews, based on a common framework of qualitative research and a narrative approach, the partnership managed to tell 26 moving and revealing and truly educational stories that will be collected in a brochure, available in all partner languages at the end of August 2017, in English even earlier (see website of the project).

**Imagine:** a former refugee from Zimbabwe up against difficult regulations surrounding “Direct Provision” in Ireland...

A Head of a Department for “Diversity and Migration” at an Adult Education Center now, but, when she was a child, she had to master the challenge of being a refugee in a foreign country for 6 years and then had to go back to Bosnia...

Join us in the course we will provide from September – December 2017. Refugees, former refugees, persons working with refugees in any capacity are welcome to join the course for free! For further information go to the website: <https://www.refugeesinproject.eu>

## WE INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE!

We as a partnership are looking forward to getting into contact with you! Follow us on our webpage: <https://www.refugeesinproject.eu> or on facebook <https://www.facebook.com/ProjectRefugeesIN>. Leave a comment in our blog <https://www.refugeesinproject.eu/en/blog.html> Send an E-mail to the contact in Ireland: [philip.penny@iadt.iet](mailto:philip.penny@iadt.iet)



## FILM CATALOGUE & FOCUS GROUPS

With the main aims of *RefugeesIN* in mind, a consensus was reached among the partners at the KoM in Slovenia about the film catalogue plan phase 1. The Irish partner developed a detailed plan of action to guide the film sourcing process. Desk research focused on relevant online websites with key RefugeesIN ‘search’ words such as *Refugees + Asylum Seekers + Inclusion + Film* as examples. The criteria for selecting the films took into account; artistic quality, consistency of information and learning potential. Each partner was required to select 6 films for evaluation with a final selection of 2 films per partner as the end result. Below are 2 of 6 films selected by the Irish Focus Group for inclusion in the overall final selection.

### IRISH FOCUS GROUP FILM SELECTION



**African Doctor:** African Doctor is a comedy drama of a biographical nature and it tells the story of Seyolo Zantoko, who as a freshly graduated doctor of Congolese descent in France, struggled with his family to integrate in a small rural village, and ended up being considered as one of the most respected doctors in the area. Director Julien Rambaldi, writer Benoit Graffin.

Focus Group quotes: “A very big yes, movie inspired us. As an immigrant when you are trying to integrate into a community, people are always going to fight you and keep you back but he always looked at the positive... a strong person... very inspiring... A big YES.”

“He was a hero! He encouraged his kids that education was the key to their future. He showed them how to be gentle but strong in their approach to negativity.”



**Persepolis:** is a 2007 French-Iranian animated biographical film based on Marjane Satrapi’s autobiographical novel of the same name. The film was written and directed by Satrapi with Vincent Paronnaud. The story follows a young girl as she comes of age against the backdrop of the Iranian Revolution. The title is a reference to the historic city of Persepolis.

Focus Group quotes: “We found it was really good, Personally I saw myself in her. She was a person that allowed her emotions to be expressed! “She got support from family, Mum, Dad, Grandmother, Uncle. They were actually role models too, they allowed her make her mistakes, especially her father who given the religious beliefs could have prevented her but he allowed her to live her life. It actually helped to challenge my own stereotyping.”

“I thought her Grandma was a brilliant role model, she was very supportive but let her decide, herself, but was always there for her.”

The feedback reported above at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Partner meeting in Dublin on May 18 and 19, 2017 was very informative and revealing. All partners (except Greece, report pending) have delivered detailed reports on Film Catalogue 1 output’s process’s and procedures which is currently being collated by the Irish Partner for further feedback.

## PARTNERS:



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