

the Online Youth Empowerment Peace Workshop: “Workshop on the Prevention and Eradication of School Violence in Europe”

1. Outline of the event

- Date of the event: December 4, 2020(Fri) Ger-14:00/ Ro-15:00
- Background: All children have the right to a safe education. However, their safety is constantly threatened by frequent violence in schools. Such violence is a serious issue today as it is does not only appear in a form of simple conflicts or accidental physical fights but also in a form of crime. Victims of school violence are often perpetrated for long term, and it is also very difficult to fully recover from the damage they received as their childhood experience often lasts permanently. For this reason, measures to prevent school violence are very important. This workshop is going to be hosted as there are many preventive programs and campaigns, but school violence is still not fully resolved
- Purpose
 - To suggest practical solution to school violence prevention for each country
 - To provide a platform where school violence can be discussed in depth together with difference European countries
 - To establish process that can be communicated to countries and IGO and implement them as national Act

2. Event Schedule

Schedule	Person in charge
Opening remark	Lynn Kim/HWPL coordinator
Introduction to IPYG and YEPW	
Introduction to participants	
Video on school violation	
Congratulatory address	Onur Oguz Dellal
Speech on 'school violence and prevention'	Sandra E. Velásquez Montiel
	Georgia Rafaela Vusdea
	Anda Märtinaş
	Andreea diana scoda
	Christina Steixner-Buisson
Speech on future directions through YEPW	Miran Kim/IPYG director of Incheon Branch
Commemorative photos	
Closing	HWPL coordinator-Lynn Kim

3. The contents of the congratulatory speech and presentations

- **Congratulatory speech: Onur Oguz Dellal, Founder Director of Youth Participation and Intercultural Dialogue Association**

- Content: It is the societies that make the countries developed, and what makes the societies developed is the active participation of the citizens. I believe that all of you are a muse as a change-maker for creating a better world. I would like to share a few brief information and my opinion about the situation of school violence in Germany as an immigrant who lives in Berlin since 2013. Approximately 50 million migrants live in Europe, while approximately 7 million of them live in Germany. Berlin is the largest city in Germany that covers many cultures, colors, religions, languages, and so on. Of course, it is very normal to have chaos and problems in a place with such diversity. Integration is the most important tool for eliminating chaos and problems. Although Germany is the most successful country in the world in the field of integration, even do discrimination, racism and similar issues still make problems for Germany. The government invests a lot of money in integration programs but they can not have a result that covers the expectations so far. The targeted changes are realized through programs and projects, and two important facts that make them effective and efficient are to create strategies and collaboration. In this context, today's workshop will be the beginning of a well-planned cooperative program that takes firm steps toward targeted changes.

- **Presentation 1: Sandra E. Velásquez Montiel, Child, Youth & Family Psychologist of Psychological Office "Safe Place Döbling"**

- Content: (prevention of school violence) A variety of programs are in progress in schools, but these do not work. According to EU studies, Austria is getting more damaging than other countries. Austria also has 90 percent immigrants, and no national system is in place for them. Violators are getting younger over time and cyberbullying has increased significantly due to technology. There are many studies that can effectively prevent violence, but many EU countries seem to have no strategy. Especially for minorities and LGBT. Violence lies not in the children's problems, but in the power structure, and in the ways of the highly integrated society. If a national system is in place, violent incidents can be prevented. In our organization, we talk with the parents about how violence can be solved. Strong leadership is important to prevent violence. If there are parents or school directors who provide mental coaching, and if there is a clear program, synergy will occur and it will be a way to successful prevention against violence. Also, children should know where to go and who can tell their stories to because it is difficult for them to speak when they are subjected to violence. Therefore, the role of organizations is important, and they should solve difficulties through psychological counseling. We will work together with organizations and parent associations to raise awareness of violence to them, and establish networks with other countries to become a bridge for young people.



Bullying: The Situation in Europe

- Many European countries do not have national prevention strategies in place to prevent bullying and violence in schools and also to handle violence for minorities and LGBT individuals.
- In Europe Bullying prevention does not seem to be an strategic priority.
- Cross-disciplinary policy synergies between education and health are needed to combat bullying in schools more effectively.

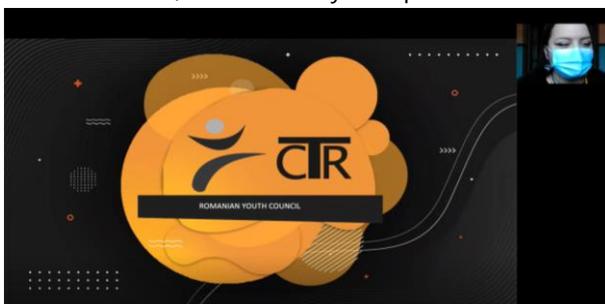


• **Presentation 2: Georgia Rafaela Vusdea, International Relations District Representative of Rotaract Romania&Republic of Moldova**

- Content: Technology has caused more violence in recent years. Especially on social networks, it is happening regardless of age, social class, ethnicity, or geography. Social networks are excellent at hiding behind the screen and committing online violence. Violence is increasing in Romania. Everyone of all ages can be affected by violence. Violence is often caused by the desire to have power and superiority, and various violence can be seen through the media. In particular, the most violent targets are children. As a result, victims can have lower self-esteem, anxiety, depression, and suicidal thoughts. Obviously there must be people around us who have been subject to physical and mental violence. What can we do as NGOs or those involved? First, we should boldly promote the damage suffered through violence, open a webinar on violence to inform parents about violence, and recognize the importance of parents' role. And according to statistics, the perpetrators of violence show their power, superiority and authority through bullying, and should inform them that this is wrong because they think it's cool. This could be realized through free consultation and information delivery campaigns by experts. Bullying can be solved by joint efforts. When we respect each other, regardless of race, religion, social status, etc., we will be able to live in a better world.

• **Presentation 3: Anda Mărtinaș, Vice President of Romania Youth Council (CTR)**

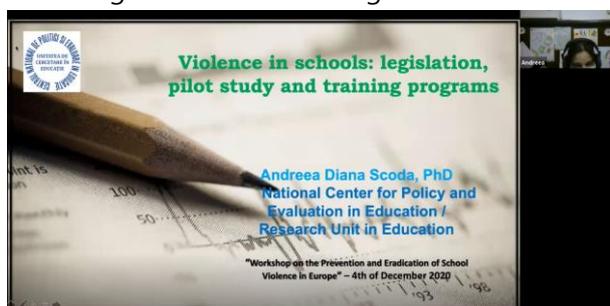
- Content: Our organization's vision is to ensure that adolescent (youth) are guaranteed human rights as decision makers, both domestically and internationally. We are also actively connecting with other organizations to engage adolescent in making decisions, both politically and economically. We are working on youth policy in Romania. Especially this year, many consultations and suggestions were made regarding violence. To date, thousands of adolescents have been consulted professionally, and counseling has focused on violence and abuse. It has also submitted legislation on juvenile abuse and violence and is currently awaiting a final vote from the government. Voting is currently ongoing. Also, after two weeks of consulting with youth groups and adolescent in Romania, we formed a document system called Youth Resolution This resolution was designed to provide adolescents with the necessary mental health and political and vocational education. We have to break the bad ideas that have been passed down from the older generation, such as "We are not friends because we have different skin colors and races." In this stereotype of the older generation, I was not a victim, but I was there and saw. Therefore, we will carry out policies and various projects to help adolescent live a better future.



• **Presentation 4: Andreea diana scoda, Scientific Researcher of Education Research Unit - former ISE**

- Content: Today I would like to talk about the pilot research and training program developed in Romania. The pathological criterion is to create a safe and positive school environment to provide a good educational environment for toddlers and students. Our program aims to provide learning tools to experts in school as well. Furthermore, the education system is also provided to parents and officials responsible for protecting their children from violence and bullying. It also promotes activities that can prevent and reduce bullying or cyberbullying in pre-university educational institutions. There is another

law recently revised in Romania, a revision to the National Education Act where teachers are held accountable for disciplinary action in relation to violence and abuse. In 2017, I participated in a program to study school violence. The research program was conducted to update data from studies conducted in 2006. A survey of 90 educational institutions in 40 provinces in Romania found 20,037 incidents of violence at all levels, including principals, directors, counselors, and students. According to data from the study, four out of five schools still suffer from violence. In other words, school violence is still going on. The most frequent form of school violence is verbal abuse. In particular, this verbal abuse appeared in other fields, such as mental, social, and religious, and was common during school breaks and around schools. Another form of violence is what students do against teachers, which manifests as of verbal abuse or disregard for teachers. A new form of violence is to harassment through cell phones. This pattern is found more by students than by teachers, but not only students but also teachers behave inappropriately. We first started by raising awareness of all the factors that cause school violence, and in the future, in Romania, various programs based on school violence monitoring and teacher training will be conducted.



Recent Pilot study on analysis methodology of the phenomenon of school violence conducted in 2017 (not published)

- > This pilot project was developed by the Institute of Education Sciences with the support of UNICEF Romania, in 2015-2016;
- > Aimed to update the analysis of school violence and to use the methodology, research methods and tools used in the study *Violence in school*, published in 2006 (<http://www.ise.ro/violenta-in-scoala-2>)
- > 2137 subjects were investigated at the level of all four groups – principals (school directors), teachers, school counselors, students.
- > The investigation took place in a total of 90 educational units in 14 counties (Argeş, Bacău, Brăila, Botoşani, Braşov, Cluj, Caraş Severin, Hunedoara, Neamţ, Satu Mare, Suceava, Tulcea, Vrancea, Vaslui) and in Bucharest.

• **Presentation 5: Christina Steixner-Buisson, Internal Coordination of School Social work Tyrol**

- Content: I have been working in social welfare since 2008. I worked as a social worker at two schools for 8 years, and now I am in charge of various management in several places. Our organization is doing social welfare work in a total of 45 schools. Our group's vision is to make sure that children can come and tell whatever they want to say comfortably. Especially when children talk about violence or abuse, we don't inform school teachers or parents because the content is a major security issue. Staying at school from Monday to Friday, helping school teachers and all children so that they can always consult. If there is a problem in the class, we go to the classroom and talk about teamwork with the children. We also educate children about violence and provide sex education. Let me give you one example of bullying in school. It's a story about "Amy." Amy is good at talking, playing well, playing games, and reading books. However, what Amy needs most is her best friend. Amy has long been a victim of bullying. When Amy was in school when she was 6 to 10 years old, she thought the best way to get home is not to assault her. Amy was hit with snow, stones, and books every winter, always feeling alone and without friends. But she thought it was her fault. Then, after coming to the school where she was 10-14 years old, she thought things would get better because the environment changed, but Amy acted in a direction that people didn't want. She was too noisy and too talkative. Thus, despite the different circumstances, bullying continued. We consulted Amy, consulted other classmates and their parents and teachers, and solved the problem through various workshops and projects. This process was very difficult and not easy. However, after trying, Amy learned how to hang out with the children. We continued to consult Amy for treatment and not to be a victim of bullying in society. The question we all want to share here is, how do we "stop violence?"

First of all, I think, violence should be seen. You have to see where violence takes place, and adults like teachers, parents and social workers must first take responsibility so that children feel safe and protected. Therefore, we also hold seminars to inform teachers of violence in schools. Teachers in

schools should also be able to stop violence and create an environment where children can learn without violence or bullying at school. A child like "Amy" may exist in other schools or classes. We will cooperate with more schools in 2021, as many schools need our help and want to help children.

The screenshot shows a presentation slide with the following content:

- SCHUSO** Schulsocialarbeit Tirol
offener Austausch - vertraulich
- School Social Work & Violence in schools in Austria/Tyrol**
- Mag.a (FH) Christina Steixner-Buisson
School Socialwork Tyrol
- Violence in school**
- This is Amy. I want to tell you her story.
 - Amy is funny, strong and loud.
 - She talks a lot, she is able to be alone.
 - She likes reading und playing video games.
 - She wants to have a best friend.
 - Amy was a victim of bullying for a long time.
- Tiroler Kinder und Jugend GmbH – SCHUSO – Schulsocialarbeit Tirol – www.schuso.at
- Seite 6

• **Presentation 6: Kim Mi Ran, the director of International Peace Youth Group(IPYG) Incheon branch**

- First of all, I would like to thank all of you for attending this event despite your busy schedule. I'm going to start with the concept of "youth." The concept of 'youth' is understood as a new life cycle created by a demand of the late industrial society for high levels of educational achievement from its members. By recognizing adolescence is not a mere transitional period but recognizing it as a unique stage of life development, it is said that the autonomy and responsibility of teenagers and their empowerment, participation, and citizenship are emphasized. The Youth Peace Workshop is an event that puts together the concept of youth and it is a place to talk about their rights, participation, and citizenship. So this workshop is entitled, the Youth Empowerment Peace Workshop, which will strengthen the youth's empowerment and improve citizenship through participation and solidarity. Since its launch in 2013 to end the war and realize a peaceful world, IPYG has been engaged in various activities as a class of civil society. The vision of IPYG is for young people to protect themselves and to pass on the world of peace to future generations. So we are doing peace activities for young people to be the main agents who realize this peace and protect their rights from violence and conflict, and we want to pass on the valuable and beautiful world of peace through our activities. We have gathered here to protect the rights of young people. But problems that threaten youth and peace are lurking everywhere. Today, experts and different organizations gathered to hold a workshop on one of the problems called school violence.

IPYG is going to inform people of the seriousness of school violence and create a program to prevent school violence based on the precious information you gave us today. This program will be made with all of you here after this workshop. In addition to what you have presented today, we will produce and share the program within January through a one-on-one meeting later, and we will launch the program in February and present the results of the program that we conducted through the second workshop in March. The results of this program are expected to affect the implementation of national policies by establishing processes that can be communicated to the states and IGO(Intergovernmental Organization) in the future.

I think the beginning of all this will be possible only if all of you here cooperate and unite together. Someone can say this. There are still many policies and various school violence prevention programs out there...Can we prevent school violence with this workshop? To that question, I want to say: it's possible when young people get together. This is not something IPYG can achieve alone. This is a goal that can be achieved when everyone here feels critical of the school violence problem and unite together. IPYG will not stop the steps towards peace until the school violence is prevented, and moreover, until all violence in the global village comes to an end and humanity enjoys universal values of peace. We hope you will continue to be with us in the future. Thank you.

4. Interview



Sabrina Wetzel / Federal Parents Council

Thank you for allowing me to participate in this event today. I will bring many inputs into my parental work. We are representative for the parental work in Germany, the cooperation with schools, teacher and students, just everyone who is involved in school-related issues. Currently the pandemic is a big issue as well as the change ongoing to which the digitalization is also connected but is only working deficiently. I could obtain many information about the surrounding regions and surrounding European countries. I think there are a lot of things we have in common. Many efforts in Germany can be seen in various programs, as I am also a member of "Action Youth Protection". Informative events about cyber bullying are conducted already for years which are particularly provided to educational staff and social workers.

I wish you all the best and a lot of success on the way you go as well as creative solutions.

5. Pictures of the event



6. Participating Organization

- Psychological Office "Safe Place Döbling"
- Rotaract Romania&Republic of Moldova
- Romania Youth Council (CTR)
- School Social work Tyrol
- Education Research Unit - former ISE
- Youth Participation and Intercultural Dialogue Association(YPIDA)
- Federal Parents Council