

## National Seminar Italy – Bari, 20 September 2019

### Report of the seminar



Mednarodna fakulteta  
za družbene in poslovne študije  
International School  
for Social and Business Studies  
Celje · Slovenia · Europe



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3-year project: 31 December 2017 – 31 December 2020  
Project countries: Slovenia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Turkey

## **Preparation phase of the seminar**

### **Development of the program, June –August 2019**

- Preparation of the programme for Bari started in June 2019. After that, we prepared invitations for key speakers, and we contacted them individually (by phone and e-mails). When we received confirmation of speaker, we prepared the final programme for the seminar (beginning of August 2019).

The content of the National seminar was structured in the following parts:

**1<sup>st</sup> part:** About unaccompanied minor migrants and young migrants in transition to adulthood – role of different actors involved and good practices in the area

**2<sup>nd</sup> part:** Roundtable with presentation and discussion (followed by open debate: questions and answers)

### **Speakers**

- Representatives with the expertise and experiences in the field of UAM and young adult migrants (from Bari and Taranto). Staff members from institutions in partner countries were also involved: ISOB, Germany (represented by Alexander Krauss), and ISSBS, Slovenia (represented by Prof Nada Trunk Širca, and mag. Anica Novak Trunk).

### **Invited participants**

- Professionals and volunteers who work with unaccompanied minors and/or young adults – professionals from educational institutions, labour market, social care and housing, health care, guardianship, protection of human rights, security ...
- Stakeholders: ministries, researchers, academics, officers from local/regional authorities, human rights ombudsman, other NGOs or public entities that work on the issue of migrants, professionals who work with unaccompanied minors & young adults ...
- The invitations for the events were disseminated through emails, personal communication with organisations that work with UAM and young adult migrants. University of Bari, that hosted the event, helped us with recruitment of participants as well.

## **Delivery of the national seminar**

Date and location: 20 September 2019, at the BaLab Centre of the University of Bari

No. of participants: 47

No. of speakers: 4 national speakers, 1 from Germany (ISOB), 2 from Slovenia (ISSBS)

Programme of the event is available below:



Invito al seminario  
nazionale- Progetto

### Main points from discussion:

The seminar in Bari at the university facility of the BaLab was fundamental because through a moment of confrontation between the various systems of reception and social inclusion of migrant unaccompanied, the merits and defects emerged involving best practices and weak point of real organization and process of social inclusion.

The Italian system, based mainly on volunteering carried out by people capable of empathy and with their own personal and professional emotional background it is not harmonized in relation to the activities carried out at the same time not in relation to the subsequent steps.

The organizational capacity of the NGOs and associations is based on personal relationships and the ability of individual operators and not on a personal, professionalizing training course capable of training operators and teachers through the knowledge of religious, historical and linguistic roots.

This approach would facilitate their work and simplify the relationship with unaccompanied minors who would immediately recognize professionalism through cultural references of their homeland. An approach of this professionalism would facilitate social inclusion more, compliance with the rules of customs and habits allowing true mental migration as well as physical migration.

An approach is needed that would facilitate professionalism more social inclusion, respect for the rules of the uses and customs allowing real mental migration in addition to physical.

Cooperation among organizations is needed, allowing mutual insights into each others field of work; and common trainings of professionals from different areas.



## Evaluation of the seminar and policy recommendation

### Letter of thanks and evaluation questionnaire

A week after the training we sent to the speakers and all the participants the *Letter of thanks*, for their contribution and participation. We asked them for feedback through evaluation questionnaires and we promised them to keep them informed about other activities in the future.

### Evaluation analysis

Evaluation sheet filled out 21 respondents (which is 38% of all the participants), most of them are in the age group 43-48 years.

Figures 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are giving summary of training evaluation:

- Figure 1 shows that the respondents are from following areas: I.) researchers in the area II.) professionals from educational institutions III.) civil society activist/volunteers, IV.) other: coordinators of project/project staff members.
- Figure 2 shows the type of activities, in which are involved participants of the national seminar. Majority of respondents had been involved in the area of education or training (57%), social care & accommodation (28%), other – i.e research and projects from the area (28%). On the question if respondents have previous experiences with innovative methods of fostering social inclusion of unaccompanied minor migrants in transition to early adulthood, we received the following answers: *57 % respondents have previous experiences, 43% respondent do not have previous experiences.*
- Figure 3 shows satisfaction with the usefulness of activities at the seminar. The respondents were in general satisfied with the national seminar - on the scale from 1 to 4, satisfaction was 3,7. Satisfaction with presentations delivered by international experts was 4; satisfaction with exchange of experiences with peers and colleagues was 3,8; satisfaction with opportunities to exchange the experiences with international experts was 3,8; satisfaction with discussion about general aspects was 3,6, satisfaction with project materials was 3,3.
- From Figure 4 it is evident that most respondents had enough opportunities to express suggestions and opinions (85%), while 15 of % of respondents claimed that they did not have enough opportunities to express suggestions and opinions.
- On the question if participants obtained new knowledge in the event 72 % respondents claimed that they obtained new knowledge; 28% that they obtained new knowledge only partly; and no one claimed that did not obtain any knowledge at the event.
- From Figure 5, we can conclude that improvements of further training should mainly include more case studies, and practical exercises. Some respondents also claimed, that they would need more discussion, presentations, and theory –a bout institutional inefficiencies.



Figure 1: Structure of respondents (21 respondents):

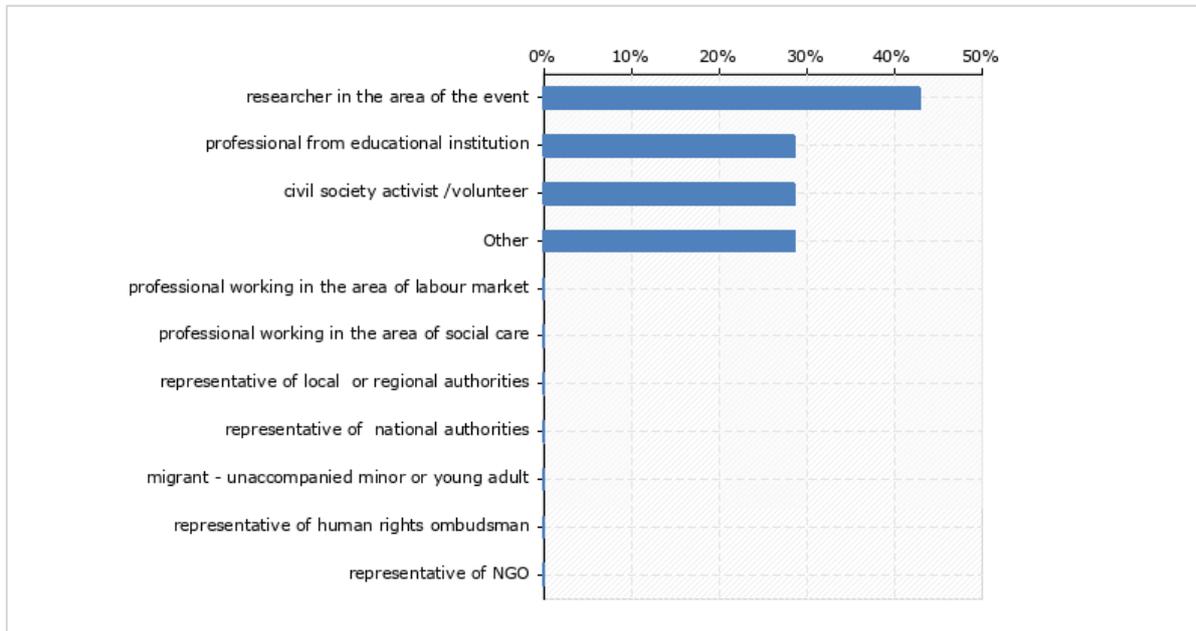
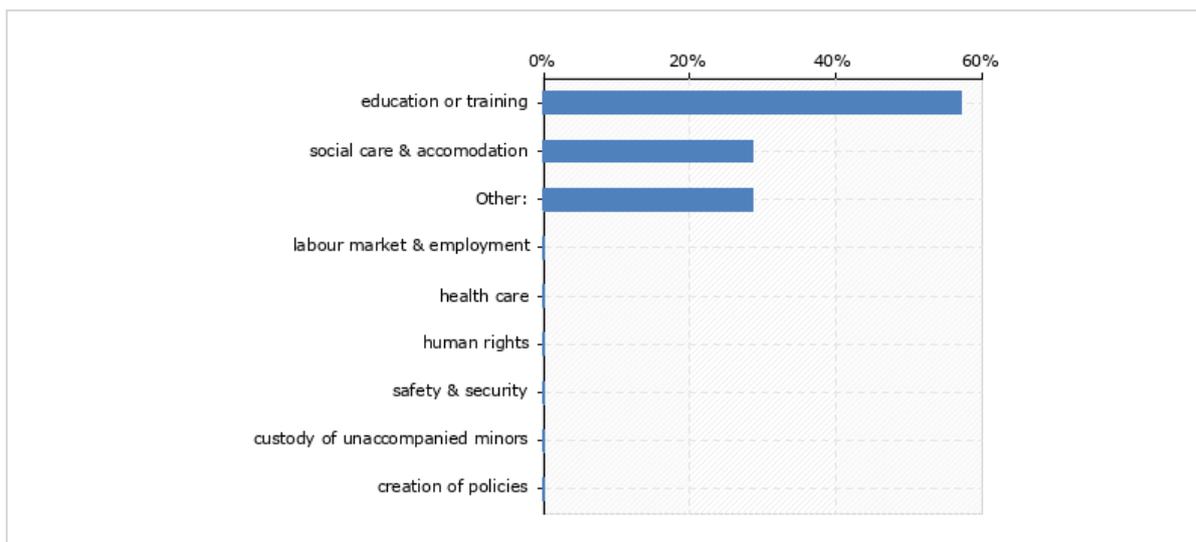


Figure 2: Experience of participants (count):

a.) professionally, involved in the areas of activities related to





b.) *previous experience with innovative methods of fostering social inclusion of unaccompanied minor migrants in transition to early adulthood*

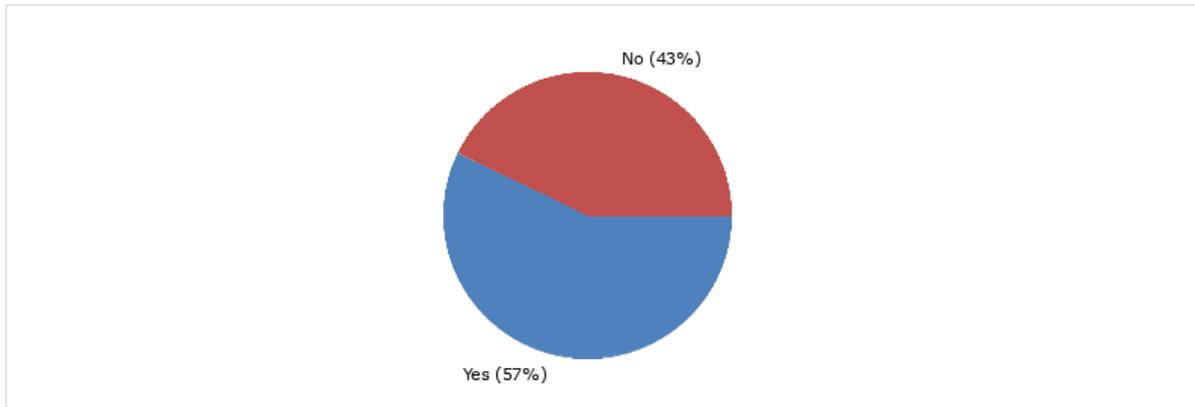


Figure 3: *Assessment of content and methodology of presentations (grades from 1 to 4):*

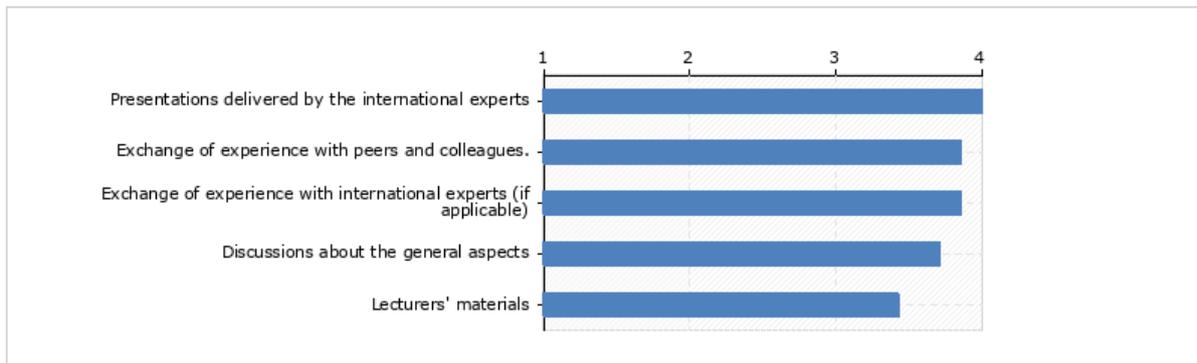
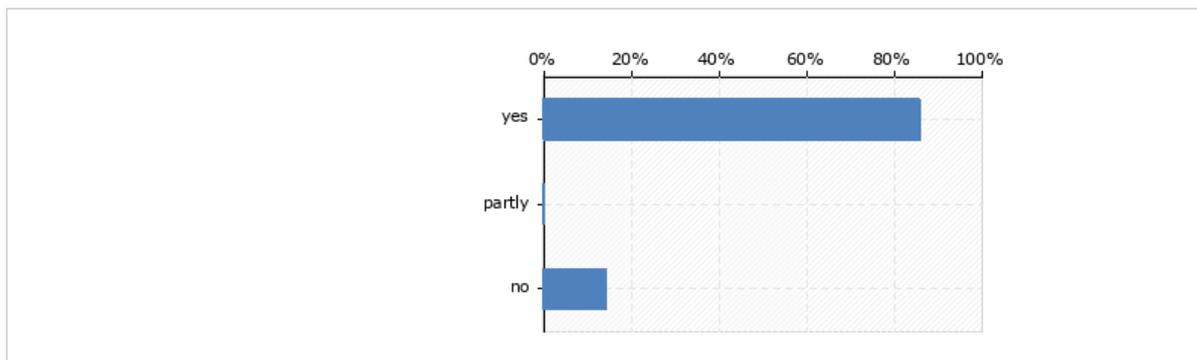


Figure 4: *Learning and discussion (frequency in %):*

a.) *Had opportunities to express suggestions and opinions at the seminar*



a.) *Had obtained new knowledge in the event*

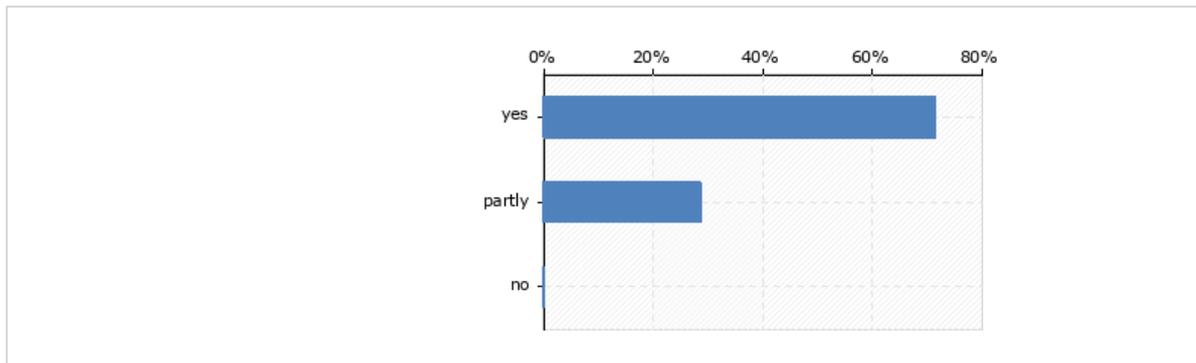
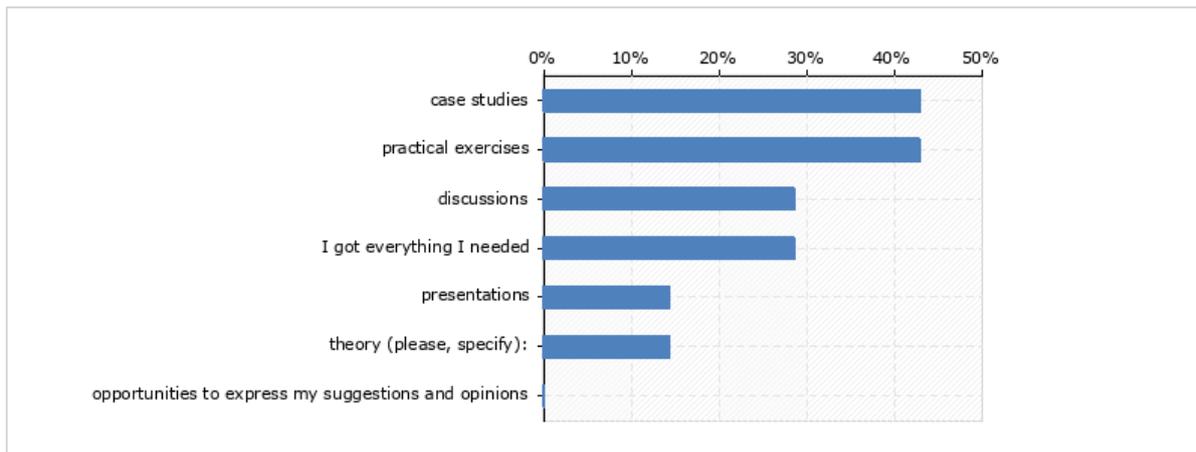


Figure 5: *Suggestions for improvements (count):*



Valuable ‘lessons learned’ at the event:

- Very interesting was to listen experiences and good practices from other countries: Slovenia and Germany
- Good opportunity to exchange views, opinion, to try to identify how the phenomenon could be improved in Apulia region

## Policy recommendations

From the seminar discussions and evaluation, we can extract the following policy recommendations:

- Need to support the transition paths from the minor to the age of young migrant
- On the educational level, it is necessary to create more adequate channels within the education system, starting from a greater awareness of the needs of unaccompanied migrant children.
- To support custody system.
- Recognition of skills.
- Alphabetization of migrants.
- Specialization of trachee and cultural mediators.

- More trainings for professionals that work in the area.
- Essential are the intervention to make safe the travels of unaccompanied migrant children; also those who decide to leave Italy; actions and partnership projects should be created with countries of origin.
- Need to guarantee effective synergy and collaboration amongst the various stakeholders operating at the centralized level and structured throughout the territory.
- Need of multidimensional approach that involves every stakeholder (central government, local governments, economic and social partners, NGOs, universities and schools, etc.) so as to achieve a better understanding of the strengths and weaknesses and, therefore, of the possible solutions to ensure equality and citizenship opportunities that are still taking into account very specific needs.
- Continuation of support all the initiatives that prepare migrants for the labour market (all the initiative shall be implemented with high quality, and carefully monitored).

### Photo impression

