

An exotic look on Catalanism



Context/short summary:

The project “An exotic look on Catalanism” works towards one of the many causes that generate harmful effects from massive immigration, which is the absence of knowledge about such phenomenon. Willing to improve the current situation of misinformation, we have planned a series of debates and conferences with the participation of immigrants and locals. The idea is to impel a process of social dialogue between autochthons, earlier generations of immigrants and newcomers. Through these debates we hope to obtain a series of responses on how the many aspects of the immigration process affect integration, and consequently, by these we hope to improve integration between immigrants and the host society.

This project has been impelled and carried out by the Commission of Citizenship, Diversity and Identities, whose members are mainly immigrants or experts in the field of integration policies. They are responsible for the crafting of a list of issues to be discussed throughout the debates. These themes are: the importance of the circumstances which surround the arrival of newcomers in Catalonia and Europe, the implication of attitudes and opinions of the hosting society in the integration process, the importance of the origins and the personal history of each immigrant in the integration process, and finally the analysis of positive and negative impacts of immigration.

Partners:

- Catalanist and Democrat Foundation Trias Fargas
- Local administration
- Other associations that are working in the same area

Objectives:

The project wants to raise the knowledge host society and newcomers have about each other, as well as raise our capacity of understanding the migratory phenomenon. We have the objective of facilitating the integration of autochthones with immigrants with the objective of improving social cohesion. The project pursues a better understanding of immigrants and host society, which will serve to overcome many stereotypes, and dogmas we all have about the unknown. We hope that this project will make new basic principles of coexistence emerge for the Catalan society. Another central objective of this project is to work for integration on a local and pragmatic basis, in a somewhat different and often complementary way to official policies.



EUROPE: Catalonia

Expected results:

The first result is a series of seven debates in different places of Catalonia. These debates will be an encounter between persons living all over Catalonia that are interested in meeting people from elsewhere and with different life stories. A greater knowledge will emerge out of these debates, a knowledge that will serve to overcome stereotypes and dogmas, as well as to augment the social cohesion of Catalan society. One of the main results will be the publication of a book compiling the best reflections, stories and ideas which emerged during the debates.

Activities:

The project foresees the organisation of a series of seven debates happening all over Catalonia. It is quite likely that in the middle or in the long term further debates would be organized. A group of speakers, new Catalans, opens the debate by explaining their personal experience as immigrants. It is through their personal account that we learn how emotional the whole process can be. The speakers would then answer general questions emerged from the audience.

Target group:

The primary beneficiaries of this project are the people who participate in the debates; public as well as speakers. This means that our activities are open to all

people who live in Catalonia. Further than simply the individual, we target collectives; this means that we want to influence associations who work towards the migratory phenomenon.



Final beneficiaries:

The final beneficiaries are all people living in Catalonia; this means the whole Catalan society.

Publications:

At the end of the project, a book will be published. This book will be a kind of resume of the great moments of the debates. Best ideas, solutions, personal stories and interactions between the participants will be the content of this book.

ENoP MEMBER FOUNDATION:
Fundació Catalanista i Demòcrata Trias Fargas