

Schools for Change 2015

“**Schools for Change**” project was launched in September 2012 with the main aim to eliminate negative discrimination and phenomena of racism in schools. While the initial planning of the project included the realisation of 18 educational workshops in total (10 for students and 8 for teacher/trainers), due to the valuable results recorded and wide correspondance of the project in the educational community, the workshops were conducted in an almost every day basis in primary schools, secondary schools and high schools not only in the area of Thessaloniki and towns around, but also in other prefectures.

“Schools for change” project is being implemented by **ANTIGONE** in collaboration with **Heinrich-Böll-Foundation Greece** for the **fourth school year** with **educational workshops for students**, non formal education **training workshops** addressed to **teachers** as well as **experiential workshops** run with the participation of **parents** on the following thematic sections:

stereotypes/discrimination/racism
bullying/school violence
gender equality
disability and rights
human rights
children rights
ecology and society

In summary, **during 2015**, the following educational activities took place:

170 educational workshops with the participation of **3.500 students** in all the thematic sections of the project

15 training workshops with the participation of **300 teachers** who participated in workshops on experiential pedagogical approaches in learning, being trained in the use of non formal education methodology and techniques in human rights education

2 experimental workshops with the participation of **20 parents** on the prevention/confrontation of bullying and negative discrimination in schools

Co-operation under the framework of “Schools for change” project

Educational programmes in schools

Besides the workshops implemented in **65 schools** with the participation of students (1-2 workshops/team) during the academic year 2014-15, ANTIGONE has been in stable cooperation with 2 schools that were interested both to preserve the peaceful coexistence of students in the class and to get acquainted with the methodology of non-formal learning.

ANTIGONE, in cooperation with the **4th Primary School of Thessaloniki** run

educational workshops in all school classes. To be more specific, 4th, 5th and 6th classes participated in nine 2/h educational workshops on bullying while 1st, 2nd and 3rd classes in three 2/h educational workshops on children's rights.

The cooperation with the school continued with an experimental workshop with the participation of the students' parents. The workshop was about the prevention of prejudices and racism at school.

Under the same framework, in the academic year 2014-15, ANTIGONE has been in co-operation with the **9th Primary School of Edessa** where the organisation implemented educational workshops with students on bullying, workshops with teachers on human rights non-formal education as well as an experiential workshop for parents on bullying.

Cooperation with First and Second Grade Education Representatives

The requests of First and Second Grade representatives of public Education to collaborate with ANTIGONE for the co-organising of common educational activities on human rights, equality, non discrimination etc., is indicative of the positive results "Schools for Change" has noticed during all the years of its implementation. Representatives not only from public educational institutions located in Thessaloniki, but also from other cities and towns, are willing to cooperate with ANTIGONE for the organisation of educational workshops addressed to students and/or teachers. Furthermore, thanks to its educational activity, ANTIGONE is also invited to participate in a series of other educational actions and events (conferences, educational meetings, students competitions etc.)

In 2015 ANTIGONE was in close collaboration with the **Health Education Offices** of the Second Grade Education of Eastern and Western Thessaloniki (secondary and high schools) as well as with the Health Education Offices of First Grade Education (primary schools).

In 2015 (2014-15 and 2015-16 school years) ANTIGONE run a series of educational workshops addressed to teachers of secondary schools and high schools on the use of non formal education on human rights related topics. Also, the organisation offered its contribution in educational projects on human rights that run by school teachers and their student groups under health education programmes related to ANTIGONE's field of activities.

To this effect, ANTIGONE cooperated with Health Education Offices, Cultural Affairs representatives, school counselors and school directors for planning and running training workshops on human rights non-formal education.

Events-Meetings

During November-December 2015, ANTIGONE participated in a **20-day educational event on children's rights** that took place in secondary and high schools. The event has been an initiative of the Health Education Offices of Secondary Education of Western Thessaloniki and run under the Universal Children's Day on 11th of December. The activities run in the schools with the participation of students.

For the universal day of humans rights, on **10 December 2015**, ANTIGONE participated in the conference titled "**The refugee issue and its impact to the Greek society**" held in the meeting "**Refugees. They are not alone**". The event was organised by the Health Education Offices of Secondary Education of Eastern



ANTIGONE - Information & Documentation Centre
on Racism, Ecology, Peace and Non Violence
NON PROFIT - NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATION
29A Ptolemaion Str., 6th floor, 54630 Thessaloniki, Greece
tel: +30-2310-285.688, fax: +30-2310-222.503
info@antigone.gr www.antigone.gr
Skype: antigone.information.centre

Thessaloniki at Vafopouleio Cultural Center.

ANTIGONE also took part in a working group on bullying which was organized on 13th of November by the **Observatory for Prevention of School Violence and bullying in Regional Directorate of Education of Central Macedonia**. ANTIGONE came in touch with teachers, educator, psychologists and other professionals, responsible of Health Education Offices and school counselors of central Macedonia so as to coordinate and design their educational actions for the academic year 2015-16.

During the academic year 2014-15, ANTIGONE -as a member of the committee- participated in all the events of the student art competitions titled **“Experiences from the classroom and the break”**. The competition which was organized by the Health Education Offices of Secondary Education run with the participation of secondary schools and high schools of Eastern Thessaloniki.

Participation in platforms and networks on democratic education

On 2015, ANTIGONE made the first steps for the launch of the **educational network and platform “Select Respect”**. The first members of the network have been the creators of “Select Respect” campaign against discrimination (Heinrich Böll, PRAKSIS, Symbiosis, Partnership for Social Sex, Greek Council for Refugees). Open to those who are involved or would like to be involved in planning and running educational activities, workshops and other initiatives related to **Democratic Education in schools**, the platform brings together different stakeholders who share knowledge, experience and innovative educational practices. As a result, the participant organizations in the network will enrich, improve and develop expertise in participatory education.

Furthermore, with the operation of an educational electronic platform, civil society organisations, schools, educational bodies and other professionals of education will be facilitated communicate, have access in common information and educational material as well as cooperate for the achievement of common goals.

Last but not least, ANTIGONE is going to participate in the **network “Foreign lands, refugee and immigration”** that runs under the Health Education Office of Secondary Education of Eastern Thessaloniki. The main interest of the network is the rights of the refugees as well as the prevention / elimination of racism and xenophobia. The participation of ANTIGONE will involve workshops addressed to teachers as well as school workshops run with students.

The review of this year’s activities does not mean the end of “Schools for Change” project. ANTIGONE continues its collaboration with all the aforementioned institutions as well as with new schools and actors who would like to participate in relevant educational actions. “Schools for Change” project seems to establish its presence in education bringing multiple positive results in the school community.