

# ARTEM, WHAT IS IT?

 DECEMBER 2019

An Afghan who arrived in Pau had no idea that this city existed before he began his journey to flee a country at war. Maybe he was dreaming of England or Sweden?

A person living in Pau did not think he would ever meet a refugee in the streets of the capital of Béarn. Today, however, **it is a reality** with which we must deal, that of the encounter between uprooted people and local people whose daily lives are shaken.

The terms migration crisis, refugees, asylum seekers, have become a stronger reality in European countries. As in France, Denmark, Spain, Bulgaria, Slovenia and Austria, for example, have seen an increasing number of "migrants" arrive in their territory and have had to find solutions to adapt to this evolution.

It is for this reason that we have chosen to partner with associations from several European countries, in order to **cross our practices and imagine new ones to work together for a better inclusion** of migrants in local communities.

Because we had an idea: to set up a system for the exchange of services between local communities and migrants. **How can we meet each other better than by providing mutual services?** It is from this idea and the aggregation of European partners that the ARTEM project was born.

Funded by the **Erasmus+ Programme**, ARTEM is above all an educational project in which the encounter between migrants and the local community is not self-evident, either on the one hand or on the other, and that it aims to contribute to providing a response: learning to meet each other, understanding the realities of the other, accepting our differences.

The final idea is the **creation of a system of non-commercial exchanges between locals and migrants** in order to create spaces for encounters between the two groups, exchanges based on equality, on the service that each can provide to the other. The **value of these exchanges is measured from time to time**, it is a system of non-commercial exchanges that we set up via ARTEM.

Focus groups bringing together migrants on the one hand and people from the local community on the other hand have made it possible to **validate the expectations of both communities** in this field, but also to bring out requests, confirming that training to meet the Other, i.e. interculturalism, is a marked need.

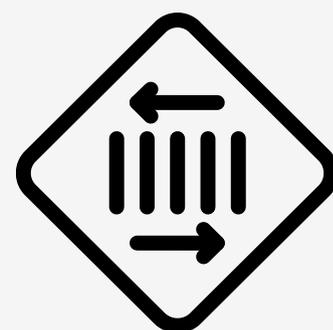
We have responded to this need and created two training courses:

- One for refugees and asylum seekers
- The second one for the host communities

Because **expectations are different**, these training courses must be as close as possible to the needs of both groups.

We are therefore ready for the next steps, those of implementation open on a larger scale, with the **launch of the service platform in France**, as with our European partners. And to make it work and bring people from different backgrounds together, it is necessary to train people to meet the Other, so the first of the next steps is to train refugees and asylum seekers on **intercultural skills** on the one hand, and people wishing to be active in welcoming migrants on the other hand, and to launch service exchanges between the two groups.

To be continued!



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A project by: 













