2018 IMPACT REPORT

The IARS International Institute

Community-led solutions for a fairer society

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INTRODUCTION

Thank you for your interest in IARS's work. I am pleased to bring you the latest updates from our organization.

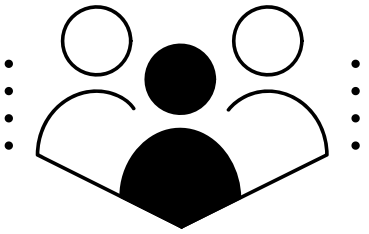
Brexit and austerity measures have made our work more relevant than ever. We continue to target disadvantaged groups in our communities while promoting our free training events and e-learning platforms. At a critical time for Europe and the UK, when European solidarity is questioned, we strengthened our efforts to cooperate with our european partners to produce evidence-based solutions to current social problems, share best practice, and to support young people and the community. We also increased our disseminationactivities to promote EU funded opportunities to work, travel and study in Europe.

I hope you enjoy reading through the work that The Institute has been involved with over this last year. As always with these annual reviews it is only a snap-shot view of the range our programmes.

We hope it will inspire you to get in touch to be involved in our work.

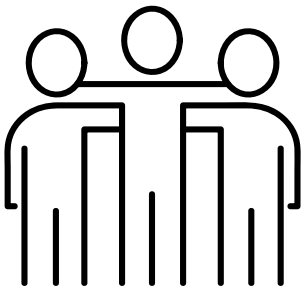
Dr. Theo Gavrielides, IARS
Founder and Director
March 2018

Our Mission, Vision and Values



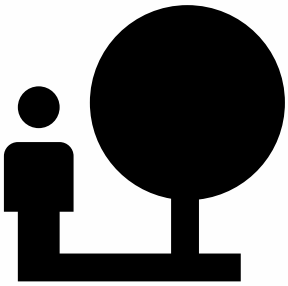
Community-led solutions for a fairer society

We were founded upon the three principles of: user & civic participation
restorative justice and
dialogue and
individual empowerment
and responsibility.



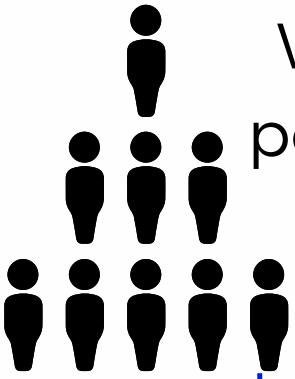
We do this by producing evidence-based solutions to current social problems, sharing best practice, and by supporting young people

Disseminating opportunities in Europe



We proactively look for opportunities in Europe to disseminate among the British youth specilly NEETS.

We contribute articles to the European Youth Portal https://europa.eu/youth/EU_



We promote youth involvement in policy debate at a local, national and european level in out youth-led magazine http://www.99percentcampaign.org/

Youth Projects

In 2018 we have worked with young BAME people in London who have struggled with employability and empowerment issues by delivering face-to-face training on the basics of entrepreneurships, opportunities available to young people in London, and on the power of education. As part of this project, IARS has delivered workshops across London, partnering with a variety of youth organisations and centres to empower young people through our INVOLVE YOUTH SOUTHWARK programme.

We are currently in the closing stage of this project, in which alongside the 99% percent project, will be hosting our Youth Awards 2019 at the end of May to celebrate the achievements of the youth involved in our projects.

c2e
care to enterpreneurship

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Program of the European U

Youth Projects

In 2018, we joined a new project partnership based upon our now completed Care 2 Work (C2W) project with our European partners called CARE 2 NTREPRENEURSHIP. The aim of this project is to unlock the potential of young carers to become social entrepreneurs, particularly focusing on the empowerment of young female carers, due to their increased likelihood to become carers. This transnational project involves partners from five EU countries, in which IARS is leading on research and evaluation, in which we aim to ensure the sustainability of the project impact and ensure accuracy in our results.

www.c2epro-ject.org

We have been piloting this course with a number of young carers organisations across South England and are moving onto the project delivery stage in 2019.

SKILL-UP by

Youth Projects

Providing young participants with valuable networking and mentorship opportunities with Natwest, whilst also extending the Skill Up project to schools across London. This programme connected young people with Natwest employees to assist them in deciding on a career path, gaining valuable experience and working on CV's to ensure they were prepared for the world of work upon finishing school.

PROMOTING YOUTH SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

PROMYSE

Youth Projects

We have also been further developing our PROMYSE project, working alongside seven partners across the EU to promote social entrepreneurship in the health and social care sector as an alternative pathway to youth self-sustainability. IARS has coordinated this project, in which we successfully developed an outstanding curriculum covering all the basic skills required in entrepreneurship regarding the health and social care sectors.

www.promyse.eu/

This curriculum is presented in a digital platform, with twelve short videos narrated by the project partners. In 2019, we are starting project delivery, offering digital and face-to-face training to young people interested in careers in the health and social care sector.

Youth Projects

In 2018 we made great progress with our EUROPEAN YOUTH & ETHICAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP training programme, in which we assisted in running a training course for trainers in Timisoara, Romania. We began delivering the project at Aylesbury High School with a group of 30 young girls, all studying either business or Economics at GCSE level. IARS has been delivering the eLearning platform face-to-face weekly in the school, inviting entrepreneurs from the Buckinghamshire area to speak with the girls to provide insight and on entrepreneurship.

https://eyee.eu/

IARS is about to host the official pitch day, in which the winning team will be heading to Vienna to compete in a week long international pitching contest with the winners from our partner organisations. We have found that half way through the training course, the young girls are already feeling more confident in their understanding of entrepreneurship and ethical behaviour.

www.dropin project.eu/

Youth Projects

DROP-In – Early School Leavers" project seeks to establish alternative pathways for youth Early School Leavers and drop outs towards social inclusion and ultimately entering the labour market. The project's methodology foresees the design and development of an online self-capacitating and networking platform with gamification elements.

We are now developing an innovative, tailor-made capacity-building e-learning platform that aims to facilitate early school leavers' socio-economic (re)integration and employability. The nine modules available through the platform are the following: Personal Development, Critical Thinking, Social Skills, Civic Responsibility, Career Planning, Basic Project Management, Basic Finance, Digital Literacy and Enterprise. Through the employment of best practices, case studies, videos and quizzes in the modules, ESLs are expected to gain new knowledge and acquire new skills in an exciting and innovative way. The main purpose of this online platform is to bridge the gap between the labour market and disadvantaged youth, by directly linking market demands to the needs and wishes of the target groups. The next step for the partnership is to start testing and piloting the platform with young ESLs. To ensure the youth-led focus of the project, the IARS Youth Advisory Board (YAB) has already started to evaluate the preliminary version of the platform and its modules. The feedback from the piloting will us to finalise the online self-capacitating and networking platform.

YEIP Youth Empowerment and Innovation Project

The Youth Empowerment and Innovation Project (YEIP) is a 3-year Erasmus+ funded programme that aims to design a policy framework for tackling the violent radicalisation of young people in Europe. In order to do this we have divided the project into four distinct Work Packages (WPs) each of which will build on the previous ones. This year we have succeeded in completing WP1 and WP2 in preparation for WP3 and WP4 in the following year.

Work Package 1:
State of the Art
WP 1 was concerned
with carrying out a review of the status and practices of counter-radicalisation
programs in the EU. In order to do this we and our partners reviewed the
various practices of our countries and conducted independent research exloring
the impact of these programs concerning policy, research and practice. The
fidnings from each of the partners were then collected and a comparative
analysis was carried out comparing the findings.

WP2 had two aims: test the underlying hypothesis of the YEIP policy measure and to construct the tools that will implement them. In order to achieve this, we and our partners carried out direct youth-led research in Schools, Universities, Young Offending Institutions and online. The results of our research were then collected and analysed.

Plans for the future

Work Package 3: Field Work Experimentation

WP3 aims to test the YEIP Good Lives Model-based policy interventions and identify and evaluate a link between YEIP's policy measures and tools. In order to do this we will carry out before-after comparisons of the professionals who will undertake YEIP training in the following year.

Work Package 4: Quantitative Triangulation

WP4 aims to triangulate our findings using two online surveys one for young people and one for professionals who work with young people, which will be designed and disseminated across Europe throughout the lifetime of WP2 and 3. The results of these surveys will then be analysed and a final report will be written that triangulates the findings from across Europe.

Justice Projects

Restore Respect Project

We worked with young people in Bradford, who have been victims of hate crime and violence by using restorative methods as part of a prevention plan to reduce long-term offending and re-offending. As part of this project IARS delivered youth engagement and evaluation parts of the programme and built an evaluation model to determine the efficacy of the RESTORE: RESPECT PROJECT over the 12 month delivery period. Our evaluation concluded that the project was successful in increasing both the young people and the practitioners' awareness in how to report hate crimes, with over 90% of young people and 100% of practitioners feeling confident in their ability to report by the end of the project.

Justice Projects

Restore London

We also worked with our partners, Catch 22 on the RESTORE: LONDON PROJECT, where we facilitated the Independent User Scrutiny Panel (IUSP), which oversaw the delivery of the project since 2016 to ensure that the project develops and delivers a Pan-London Restorative Justice Service that has the voices of users at its core. Led by an independent Chair, Ben Lyon, the IUSP consists of nine members with lived experiences of being victims of crime or professional restorative justice practitioners. The Panel was commissioned by the Mayor of London through MOPAC to provide independent scrutiny of the work of Restore: London and to be a voice for victims in the process. IARS acted as an independent partner building the evidence base for the service and evaluating the delivery of the programme's frontline services (Early 2017 – January 2019). Our evaluation assessed the impact of the first-ever London-wide restorative justice service and it measured how the service has met victims' needs of accessing restorative justice services in London.

Justice Projects

PROCHILD
PROTECTION AND SUPPORT OF ABUSED CHILDREN THROUGH MULTIDISCIPLINARY INTERVENTION

In 2018, we have also joined a new project partnership, which seeks to create a multi-professional model of cooperation in response to violence against children. PROCHILD PROJECT aims to tackle underreporting and fragmentation of services, and implement a joint approach based on complementary competences and the child's best interest. The transnational project involves partners from six EU countries. IARS is responsible for the communication and dissemination of the project, and we aim to promote the outputs, increase the visibility and ensure the sustainability of the project impact and results.

www.prochildpro-ject.org/

Justice Projects

PROTASIS
Police Training Skills

As part of the PROTASIS - POLICE TRAINING SKILLS project, a training programme modelled off from the best practices in the UK, trained and capacity built 223 police officers in Greece, Italy and Portugal on the EU Victims' Directive. IARS undertook the evaluation and reviewed the impact and efficacy of the programme on improving the experience of victims in line with the EU Directive. Our evaluation specifically assessed the curriculum design, the organisation and delivery of the training, the trainers' capacity, as well as the benefits and possible obstacles identified by the trainees to put into practice the knowledge and skills acquired through the training. Our evaluation demonstrated an increase in confidence levels towards tackling various victim-sensitive cases prior and post training. We also discovered that participants felt more confident and better equipped with the skills and methods necessary to support victims, especially through ensuring that all victims have access to victim support services based on their specific needs. The findings and recommendations of the evaluation will assist in the further enhancement of the training programme.

Heritage Fund Project

The latin sounds of pueblito paisa

Preserving our history and heritage

A new IARS project which objective is to document the cultural legacy of the Latin American market at Seven Sisters (Wards Corner). Due to imminent redevelopment of the site, there is an urgency to preserve the memories and history of this remarkable hub for the Latin American families and community.

To contribute to the preservation of the cultural legacy of Latin Community in London by building the first official cultural archive based in the Latin Village in Seven Sisters. This archive will include the oral history of the community at the market and a visual archive. -To offer a mentoring project in partnership with Latin American organisations to provide the traders with professional skills to confront the future of the market. -To give visibility to the Latin American and their cultural input into their local history through events, exhibitions, social media and other ...(newsletters, radio, newspapers...)-To partner with local partners and other Latin American groups and organisations to give to the project the social impact expected and build a totally user led results.

abused
no more

We increased legal capacity in the areas of gender-based discrimination, exclusion and abuse against some of the most marginalised youth groups and in particular those who tend to be disadvantaged due to their gender and cultural differences (e.g. immigrants, refugees, descendants from immigrant families) and other social obstacles e.g. sexual orientation and ethnicity.

The evidence that emerged from our project support that when people are given basic legal literacy to deal with everyday situations not only they stand a better chance in society, but also avoid consuming public services unnecessarily
(IARS, 2010)

https://www.abusednomore.org

PATRONS

PROFESSOR KAY HAMPTON

LORD CHARLES FALCONER OF LONDON

SIMON ISRAEL

SIR BERT MASSIE CBE

SIR GEORGE NEWMAN

TREVOR PHILIPS OBE
VICE PRESIDENT

TRUSTEES

SIMON GODHILL

JEROME BURKE

JAMES LOWE

OUR FUNDERS

COMIC
RELIEF

Erasmus+

Home Office

Funded by the Criminal Justice
Programme of the European Union

Southwark
Council

BIG
LOTTERY
FUND
LOTTERY FUNDED

eurodesk
UK

MOPAC

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LOTTERY FUNDED

Bermondsey and Rotherhithe
Community
Council

Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Skills &
Opportunities
Fund

NatWest

OUR MEMBERS

Transform Justice

UK YOUTH

ERANOS

RESTORATIVE SOLUTIONS
reducing harm, resolving conflict

the Howard League for Penal Reform

consortium
of lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender voluntary and community organisations

CLINKS
supporting voluntary organisations that work with offenders and their families

Khulisa

just lincolnshire
rights, respect & responsibilities

InEuropa

Partnership for Young London

iirp
International Institute for Restorative Practices

Policy Centre for African Peoples
Centre d'Idées pour les Peuples Africains

xenia

DETENTION ACTION

SOGICA

bucks new university

momentum WORLD

DIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

Anziani e non solo
ANS

Restorative Justice Council

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