The 2nd transnational project meeting of LOST Project was held in Madrid (Spain), on June 18th & 19th 2018. The meeting was attended by project partners from Italy (SDS...
During the meeting partners discussed the results of the research they conducted in their countries about the procedures applied when declaring a person’s disappearance. The overall conclusions will be included in a Report that will be a Deliverable of the Project. Moreover, they discussed issues related to the design of the e-learning educational program, which will be addressed to employees and executives of organizations and bodies involved in cases of disappearances. The training program will be implemented through a specially designed online training platform.

Next meeting will take place in Pisa (Italy) in November 2018, where partners will participate to a Joint Staff Training in order to test and validate the training package among their staff by the external support of experts in key subjects.

International Day of the Disappeared

International Day of the Disappeared is held annually on the 30th August and gives the chance to draw attention to the worrying phenomenon of peoples’ disappearance.

The impulse for the day came from the Latin American Federation of Associations for Relatives of Detained-Disappeared (Federación Latinoamericana de Asociaciones de Familiares de Detenidos-Desaparecidos, or FEDEFAM). The organization founded in 1981 in Costa Rica as an association of local and regional groups actively working against secret imprisonment, forced disappearances and abduction in a number of Latin-American countries.

International Day of the Disappeared, is an opportunity to sensitize more people to the concerning phenomenon, increase also is an opportunity to highlight the work of several organizations, such as international bodies and organizations in the fields of human rights activism and humanitarian aid, including for example Amnesty International (AI), Red Cross (ICRC) and Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

The phenomenon of missing people has taken great dimensions at local and global levels. In both Europe and Greece there is an increase of the percentage of missing persons of all ages. The severe social and economic problems, crime, migration, etc. are just some of the reasons why the phenomenon is growing.

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Meeting on Disappearances

On September 16 and 17 the meeting on Disappearances in which the SOSdesaparecidos team participated with the presence of its President: Joaquin Amills and the General Coordinator: Francisco Jiménez, took place in the City of Inca (Spain). The presentations by SOSdesaparecidos were about the LOST Project in which it was explained how to act in the first moments of the disappearance and the importance of the data collection for the investigation as well as the social and psychological treatment to the families.

Participating in this presentation were members of the police, search teams, psychologists and canine search units and families of missing persons.

The General Directors of Emergencies agreed on the importance of the LOST Project and the knowledge of how to work on the problem of disappearances in the countries participating in this project.

More than 70 professionals participated with questions and listened to the presentations of SOSdesaparecidos and the LOST Project.

Finally the Mother of Malen Ortiz, a minor missing from Palma de Mallorca (Spain) read a letter explaining how the day to day of the family of a missing person is, causing a very emotional silence, making it hard to hold the tears back when faced with this experience.

Last news on Missing people in Europe

- Children eat leaves in a bid to avoid starvation in war-torn Yemen, Euronews
- Event: Protecting Migrant Children and Unaccompanied Minors in the EU: Developing a Co-ordinated Approach to the Emerging Crisis, Public Policy Exchange
Projects: Preparing young refugees for the labour market, European Social Funds

Policy memo "Education for unaccompanied migrant children in Europe", European Commission

LOST project materials

Partners

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