

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP TIMISOARA | June 2019

“Promotion of interreligious and intercultural understanding”



Volkshochschule
im Landkreis Cham e.V.

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BO6PQHGXnlk>

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REM- Course in Germany: in cooperation with the Institute for Political Science University Regensburg

1. Human rights
2. Norms and values in Germany
3. Norms and values in different cultural settings
4. Violence and radicalisation
5. Religion/Islam
6. Gender roles, marriage and family
7. Conflicts (of values) and conflict solving
8. Tolerance and democracy

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Immigrant Integration: a two way street



It requires efforts of the:

- community within which newcomers live and work: creating opportunities, openness to other countries and religions
- immigrants (asylum seekers, refugees, migrants): willingness for civic participation, socioeconomic integration

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General objectives

- explore issues related to the promotion of human rights & duties, fundamental freedoms and common human values
- increase people's cultural knowledge, awareness and perspective regarding miscommunication resulting from cultural differences
- provide teaching staff effective tools, strategies and techniques to challenge prejudiced behaviors and stereotypes and promotion of tolerance
- foster open discussions in classes for countering radicalisation and extremism and promotion of active citizenship
- develop learners' critical thinking and problem solving skills

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Methodology used

- **Cooperative learning:** fostering the exchange in classrooms to accomplish shared goals
- **Discussion** in small groups and in plenum: stimulating the exchange of different opinions among the participants
- **Case study analysis:** providing opportunities to discuss about ambiguous scenarios and look for problem solutions
- **Reflective learning:** raising awareness about the process of self-observation and exploration in the learning process, by thinking critically about own experiences and ideas

Some impressions from the trainings in Germany



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Feedback received

- **REM-training:** favourable platform that encourages every participant to speak out, share their concerns, battle existing negative stereotypes and work together to find common solutions
- **REM-methodology:** effective and useful to address cultural and religious topics which are often tabooed and to tackle deep-rooted stereotypes and prejudices.
- **Innovative tools** can be used in work with migrants to foster active citizenship, promote intercultural and interreligious dialogue and social cohesion