



## BLEND IN Newsletter

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### Welcome to the 1<sup>st</sup> BlendIn Newsletter!

*In this issue, you will discover our project "BLEND IN: Language, Cultural and Social Orientation for Young Refugees"!*

#### Our project

BLEND IN aims to prepare and empower one of the most vulnerable groups of our times, young migrants & refugees seeking a better life in a third-EU country. The ultimate objective of the project is to develop the social, civic, intercultural competences of the young refugees and migrants resettled in a host country, inform them on their rights and promote their autonomy, active citizenship and participation in social life and labor market, thus preventing their social exclusion, combating discrimination and segregation by facilitating their smooth cultural and social integration in the host community.

In order to achieve this goal, the BLEND IN partners will develop a cultural, social and language integration toolkit in the form of a mobile application, orienting the young newcomer refugees into the hosting societies' cultural and social realities and norms. As the International Organization for Migration (IOM) underlines, cultural orientation is a very important part of a well-managed resettlement process that contributes to reducing refugees' concerns and overall anxiety, while at the same time increasing their chances of successful integration. As refugee integration is a two-way process that involves both refugees and the receiving societies, the project will provide

the young refugees and migrants, recently resettled in a new country, with the appropriate tools to help them safeguard their cultural and religious identity while empowering their integration in the new community by introducing to them the most important social, cultural and language elements in their hosting communities, promoting that way intercultural and inter-religious dialogue, tolerance and respect of cultural diversity and human rights.

The Project is funded by the European Commission and will run for 24 months (14 November 2016 - 13 October 2018).

#### Our partners

BLEND IN is implemented by 7 European organizations from 5 different countries. In particular: Anziani e non solo SC (ANS) - *Italy*, Caleidos Cooperativa Sociale Onlus (CALEIDOS COOP. SOC. ONLUS) - *Italy*, Kentro Merimnas Oikogeneias kai Paidiou (KMOP) - *Greece*, EEO Group S.A. - *Greece*, Foundation for Shelter and Support to Migrants (FSM) - *Malta*, Centre for Advancement of Research and Development in Educational Technology LTD (CARDET) - *Cyprus*, Canary Wharf Consulting LTD - *UK*.