



Evaluations of the summer exchange in 2007

I learned a lot from other people so I am very satisfied about knowledge I get here, I do not change my opinion and I still have the same beliefs I had. People are connected from 5 country and working together, during that we are all learning. And I must say that I am really thankful for all.

Ana Lakatoš, 24, Novi Sad/Serbia

I have been thinking about this subject for a long time and I had many question in my mind. Though I was able to find answers for some of them, new question marks have occurred to me, which is a really good thing to make think about it in a different way.

For me the goal of project is to reach as many people as we can, is to arise consciousness among the people and I think we have achieved some part of it. The whole divided god group is already tolerant about these things, but i think we were able to reach some more people except ourselves, during the shootings, I believe that after all the thing will be finished, this will be fully achieved.

Another good thing for me, maybe not an aim, an intercultural mobility was created and people in mixed groups worked together, put their ideas and came up with new ones. This was also another thing that is real successful.

Benan Orhon, 22, Istanbul/ Turkey

Until now I did not have much experience in working on documentary film-making. This was indeed a ground breaking experience for me and it certainly will influence my attitude towards this kind of films. Also, no matter how little time in my life I have spent analyzing the aspects of religion and human beliefs in my own and other cultures, this experience made me think about many new aspects of our lives. Also, it was the first time for me to work in a bigger team than two people. The minor communication difficulties that I've had with the participants from my group (which were successfully resolved) were in fact a good learning experience to me. Now I have an advanced view of working in a team.

Darko Bubonja, Novi Sad/Serbia

Firstly I learned about different cultures, different religions, making film, I met with very different people and their idea not only in project also in country where we have been in.

Esra Bayham, Istanbul / Turkey

First of all I'm happy that I learned some basics about film making. I learned a lot about Islam, Catholicism and Hare Krishna, but my opinions didn't change during the project, I still think that all organized religions are used only to control people, and that religious persons can't be free from prejudices.

Ilija Kuzmanović, Novi Sad / Serbia

To be honest, this project and all the discussions just made my beliefs to become even firmer, because I am an atheist. I loved it here and we have really lot of really great material for the documentary, and that was one of the main purposes of this project and we've already achieved. I have learned a lot about different religions and cultures, things that I didn't know before. I really appreciate the opportunity that I had to learn about everything, and I hope that I did my best to achieve that!

It is great!!!!!!!!!!!!
I love it!!!!!!!!!!!!

Mateja Perić, Mostar/ Bosnia and Herzegovina

I found some proofs supporting my thoughts about the cultural differences. And I found out that religion is really a BIG word for the world and the way people live and behave in different countries...And its place in war of course.

I would really like to join other similar workshops and projects...and believe that we will work together some how...

Metin Oscakir, Istanbul/Turkey

Until now I had a lot of knowledge about religion. But, knowledge has no limits. So I have learned some new things. My beliefs did not change during project – I was atheist, and still I am. But, I have met new people from different countries and religious and cultural backgrounds. Exchanging ideas with them, discussions between different people, working on same projects with them was the greatest thing in this project. Apart from that, I've learned basic of working on film making. So for me, this project (until now) was very good, successful and it achieve it goals.

Petar Atanackovic, Novi Sad / Serbia

Moje misljenje o religiji se nije promenilo. Ja licno ne verujem u boga ali postujem crkvu kao instituciju kao i sve ostale religije dokle god me to ne ugrozava. Svako putovanje, upoznavanje sa novim ljudima, rad na nekom projektu donosi nova iskustva koja ce mi znaciti u buducnosti verovatno vise nego sto sam svestan ovog momenta.

Saša Srecković, Novi Sad / Serbia

I learned many things about Islam, and was able to abort many prejudices. I can understand the religion more, and also am surer in my opinion that it is not a religion for me. But it is important for me to be able to defend Islam against prejudices from others, and I can only do this, if I know Islam.

I got much more interested in the history of the Balkans. This is certainly positive. I would like to come back and explore these countries more by myself. It is very exciting to get to know some bits of this very different lifestyle.

I was expecting a more professional attitude of some people. Also in the sense of exchanging general ideas about filmmaking, religious approach and cultures. I can not say that this was achieved.

But other things were achieved:

Many important impressions that will always remain.

Many solved prejudices that will never come back.

Many memories of times and places that I would never have been able to have without this project.

Thank you very much!!!

Ana Zirner, Berlin/Germany

Until now I did not have much experience about this topic. So I have learned lots of new things. My beliefs did not change specially during this project. But, for me it was interesting to meet some people from different cultures and to see what are they think about topic and so on. So, exchanging of ideas with them was very interesting experience for me. Also, this project gives me opportunity to improve my knowledge about film work. This project was, by my opinion, very good and it achieve its goals.

Bogdan Jankovič, 24, Novi Sad / Serbia

This exchange was one of the best things that happen to me until now. I learned a lot about camera and editing and about whole concept of making the documentary films. But concerning the idea of changing opinion and beliefs, it stayed the same, I have the same believes like I had before in my life, that I am faithful but not a religious. But I saw that that concept of belief is present in the large part of the group. Also I learned a lot about the cultures and people in the group, about their traditions and customs. I saw a lot of different parts of regions and the result of exchange was fully achieved because I met a lot of new people, made new friends, learned about the filming process and had a really great time. Well spend vacation!

Denis Tomić, 18, Mostar/ Bosnia and Herzegovina

For me this project was very fruitful in many aspects. This project assure me in my atheistic position and now I convinced as never before that organized religion is bad for the planet. So I will try harder to prevent any bad influences from organized religions on the humanistic society in 21st century. I think many other participants feel the same way and also that some of their prejudice towards the atheistic or secular society will not be any more. If that is the case than the project was very successful...

Zoran Petakov, 27, Novi Sad / Serbia

I learned a lot of things, especially about other countries and their cultures. The purpose was in my opinion achieved, I considered the biggest benefit of this project meeting other people and talking with them. I think the main goal of such projects will always be communication between people of different ethnic and religious backgrounds so I think the purpose was achieved.

Janus Pintarič, 18, Ljubljana/Slovenia

This time that we spent together were crazy, like riding a rollercoaster. However, some work was done, specially in the video workshop and some of that work is quite good. Also there were some lectures, debates that were perhaps useful for some people in terms of education, expending knowledge and encouraging creativity. I didn't do much work, as everyone knows, actually everything I did (and are still doing) was (am) writing this travel journal which is really literal and is not just a simple résumé of

what was going on; I found myself in that and didn't want to force myself into other activities that were taking place (that honestly don't interest me so much) – and for that, for literal text I had and am having tons of material so that sometimes I panic in a sense ‘will I be able to edit everything’. So the first main thing (on totally personal level) that I've had from this exchange is a chance to do the thing that I'm doing in terms and technicians that I have never done before – writing and that is priceless. Second there are these whole bunches of people that I know and will probably think about them in the next days, maybe dream about them, and that is also – priceless. I believe that this, apart from video and research, which are nevertheless categorized as workshops and in that term they are here to teach interested people to work on this fields, people from different cultural context becoming friends, hugging themselves goodbye, telling themselves ‘I'm really happy to have met you’ – a pure example of multicultural relationships – is the main purpose of the project and in that terms it was achieved.

Matjaž Zorec, 22, Ljubljana/Slovenia

I saw the lives of people in Bosnia after the war, people's thoughts about war and peace, how they live together... In group, we learned about different people and cultures. Although the way I see is stays the same, I'm sure there is some changes in background that we can't tell, but they will effect out thinking from now on. Also I learned some technical information about video editing and photo developing which will help me a lot. I made new friendships, get to know some people, talked about prejudices... Although our short movies doesn't reflect the subject ‘role of religion’, we tried and saw what can we get and that was the important thing, we worked in mixed groups, got the group spirit. Thanks a lot.

Nur Yildirim, 20, Istanbul/Turkey

I learned about Balkan War, I saw differences between Muslims in Turkey and in Bosnia-Herzegovina. My beliefs didn't change after project. In this project i learned about documentary videos, video editing, shooting, I met with good people. I learned what the tolerance to people is and I think good works are done in this project...

Ozan Gursel, 22, Istanbul/Turkey

During this exchange I've learned a lot about other religions, their costumes way of believing. I've also learned a lot about making film what I will be able to use for my personal upgrade and I'll be able to use it in further work. But due to the new-gained perspective of religions I'm still an atheist but I respect more other religions.

Samo Gnezda, 19, Ljubljana/ Slovenia

After the exchange i can say that the new generation is more optimistic. They try to connect the people. I get a lot of benefits from this exchange. I learnt basics of filming and technical equipment. On the other hand I observed the differences cultures. I changed my mind about the people who are conservatives. I learnt to understand them. The problem is in our mind. We are responsible for our behavior. So we create diversity. Thanks to this exchange I can tell my experiences in my country.

Ahi Gokce, 19, Istanbul/Turkey

Main item is for me the social and creative interchange. The discussions, public and personal, about religion are interesting, but also a very interesting area of comparison is how everyone dwells with the theme. Some with long observation and a contemplative form, some with direct questions, some with humor and aggressive camera and editing.

I haven't changed my personal believing, nor do I think that my respect for other religions has changed. Well, it was nice to see a participant I learned to appreciate, Ezra, pray and feel respect to her praying. The benefit that results isn't completed now; we are a little more than half way. I don't want to find conclusions at his point. Anyhow, I can say that I had an intense time with colleagues, and learned of them and their way of seeing and showing.

Leon Geyer, 30, Berlin/Germany
