# LDA YOUTH CENTRE NEWSLETTER

### JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2013

**Local Democracy Centre LDA** in Niš - **LDA Niš** (Centar lokalne demokratije) was established in 2001 as a part of ALDA network (Association of Local Democracy Agencies). Our main fields of activities are: *capacity building for local authorities and civil society, local economic development and youth.* 



#### SLOVAKIAN MOVIES PROJECTION

In cooperation with Centar Za Razvoj Civilnih Resursa, our EVS volunteer Jana Kandlova organised the screening of short Slovakian movies. These movies are part of a project called « New nationalism in the heart of Europe » implemented by the Slovak visual artist and film maker Tomas Rafa.



The first session, on Saturday 9th of February, presented issues of segregation walls built to separate Roma population from the others. The second session, on Tuesday 26th of February, presented issues about LGBT prides. Both sessions were followed by a small talk including every participants.



This project has been exploring the thin line between patriotism and nationalism, racist and xenophobic signes behing demonstrations, blockades, protests and everyday life.



More information:

Www.newnationalism.eu

Http://your-art.sk/?p=1368



### FRENCH CONVERSATION CLASSES

Marion Poullain, French EVS volunteer from LDA, offers free French conversation class. Conversation classes have a unique place in the process of learning, they enable every participant to practice French with a native speaker. The point is to learn on an informal way. Every two weeks, our volunteer organizes a small friendly talk in one café of Nis and gives to every participant one article about French news.



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LIVING LIBRARY

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Wednesday 13th of February, the Gymnasium Bora Stankovic organised an intercultral meeting between its students and foreigners. This event was called Living Library. A living library is the coming together of different individuals in an open and safe environment. Volunteer 'Books' are real people who are able to speak about their personal reality and are available to meet with interested 'Readers'. This kind of events are intended to break down stereotypes about difference.

Different nationalities were involved: French, Slovakian, Danish, Chinese, American, Romanian, Moldovan and German. It was the opportunity foreigners to exchange with youngsters from Serbia, to tell them about their countries and languages as well as about their impressions of Nis. The youngsters seemed really enthusiastic.



### NIS GREETERS

Local Democracy Centre LDA, in partnership with Youth Office Mediana and Nis Tourist Organization, is implementing the project "Nis Greeters". Nis Greeter Service matches visitors with friendly and enthusiastic citizens of Nis who are happy to share the city they love with families, friends, and individuals traveling solo. A visit with a Greeter leaves a lasting impression of the city, the warmth of its people, and the energy and diversity of its neighborhoods, which each visitor carries forever and communicates to others. Nis Greeter's services are available free of charge, and there is a no tipping policy. Nis Greeters are all volunteers coming from varied backgrounds welcoming all visitors.









### **EDITORIAL TEAM:**

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Flash news: New EVS volunteer from Portugal joins LDA in March!