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## **Newsletter 1 September 2022**

The COVID-19 pandemic and confinement measures have caused confusion and upheavals in people's lives from multiple points of view. Heavy effects on young people have been observed in relation to the employment situation and mental health.

ACTMEM - Active memories project aims to actively involve young people to transform this shared memory of difficult times into force and resilience through sharing stories and experiences using innovative tools such as the storytelling technique.

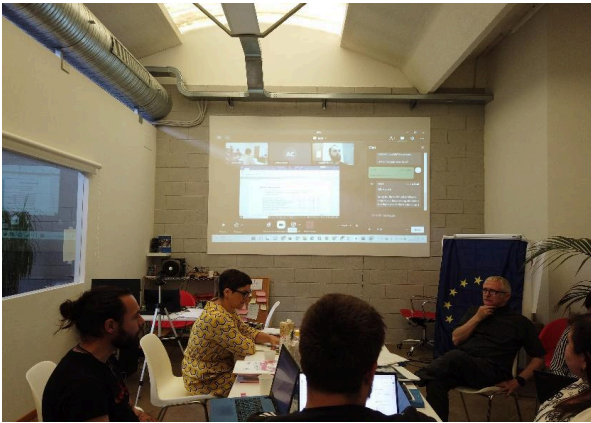
The shared memories are shaping the individual and collective identities and represent a turning point in the lives of present generations. ACTMEM will accompany the young people transforming this experience into an opportunity for the development of self-confidence and key competences, such as intercultural awareness and expression, sense of initiative, social and civic participation.

ActMem will lead to the realization of a Manual addressed to youth leaders for supporting the involvement of youth by providing methodologies and practical guidance as well as realizing an Open Narration virtual space for collecting individual and collective stories representing a priceless digital archive of the memory of life in times of pandemic from the perspective of young people.

The project will be realized in three main phases, phase 1 consists in setting up the project instruments, phase 2 in the implementation of the main activities and phase 3 in the validation and dissemination of the learning outcomes.

In this context, and as part of the first phase, the project partners have had the Kick off meeting in Italy on May 25-27 May 2022 during which they have created the working group and the scientific commission as well as drafting the management plan from technical point of view illustrating the forthcoming actions and the role of each partner.

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The second translational meeting was held online on September 12, 2022, partners discussed the advancement first phase objectives and in particular, the storytelling methodologies for the narration of memory in preparation for the blended Training workshop and the content to be tested with the youth leaders during the training activity in March 2023.

The partners has also discussed the plan for the implementation of Digital space/Web platform that will facilitate the collection and constructive reflection on the experiences developed and lessons learnt during the times of pandemic, representing as well a networking tool aimed to facilitate interaction among young people at European level, e for the realization of a collective narratives across Europe.

Next transnational meeting will be held in Berlin on October 24-25 2022 with the presence of the 5 project partners representing 4 European countries.

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For any additional information you can contact the project leader, Arci Valdarno, to the following address: [info@arcivaldarno.net](mailto:info@arcivaldarno.net).

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