



## **ROUND TABLES/DEBATES REPORT** **December / January 2013**

- *Partner: Foundation for Society*
- *Target group: Youngsters over 16*

Let's do it better project is based on educational and training competences of the participants, in order to become promoters of their own social emancipation and social integration.

Round tables and debates based on interviews with the beneficiaries are an inspiration both for beneficiaries and professionals to think about how popular education and social mediation promote social and political empowerment of target group.

Please describe - according to the beneficiaries -

**1. *how popular education and social mediation contribute to valorize beneficiaries as professionals in terms of:***

o equal opportunities

Participants of popular education and social mediation methods are empowered to act to effect change on the problems that affect them - popular education is a collective effort in which a high degree of participation is expected from everybody. Therefore it promotes equal opportunities to arise for everyone engaged in this process, specially the beneficiaries.

o social inclusion

Social mediation is an expression of empowering the individual components of that good society, empowering them to take responsibility for maintaining social peace and preventing crime. Therefore using popular education and social mediation methods in work with beneficiaries, it is possible not only to help to solve problems that have arise already, but to prevent them as well. Because social mediation is a way of solving conflicts at an early stage, perhaps before they reach the level of overt conflict.

o intercultural dialogue



Popular education as the most empowering education method, provides opportunity for everyone to meet at the same, equal level. There is no importance of the nationality, age, gender – everyone is equal. At this level it is more easier to negotiate, to learn and accept differences, to develop and maintain dialogue between different cultures and prevent cross cultural differences.

*2. how the practices of active citizenship and equal opportunities promote a process of target group's social and political empowerment*

Informed, confident and active member of the society knows his rights and responsibilities, uses methods provided in democratic societies to participate and engage in decision making processes. Every activity that promotes this process is helping to foster social and political empowerment.