



EUROPEAN UNION
Asylum, Migration
and Integration Fund

THE JOHN PAUL II
CATHOLIC
UNIVERSITY
OF LUBLIN

KUL
1918



Newsletter#4

OTWARTA INTEGRACJA/OPEN INTEGRATION

www.kul.pl/openintegration

Dear Readers!

We are proud to present the fourth newsletter of the “Open Integration” project. The newest issue covers the events from the period March-September and presents basic information concerning the current project offer. This time the biggest emphasis is put on our Common Room and summary of the second edition of the Summer School, as well as our Orientation Week. Enjoy our newest issue!

PROJECTnews

CURRENT OFFER OF THE OPEN INTEGRATION PROJECT

POLISH LANGUAGE COURSES

on basic and intermediate level that started in October this year for students; people working in Lublin, those seeking a job or their family members.

TRAININGS OF SKILLS NEEDED ON THE LABOR MARKET

Topics of the trainings includes: identifying professional potential, self-presentation and simulation of a job interview, preparing job application (CV, cover letter), creativity and image building, time management. Participants receive free teaching materials. The second edition starts in November 2017.

INTEGRATIVE AND CULTURAL TRAININGS

so a cycle of meetings and workshops bringing our participants closer to a culture and history of Poland. Proposed classes within the trainings are: „Intercultural Communication Workshops”; “Poland and its Past in Everyday Life. Historical Education and its Impact”; „Transition to Democracy”; „Polish Holidays and Traditions”; “Poland Today”; “Migrants’ Rights in Poland”. Interesting trips will be organized within the trainings too, inter alia to Kazimierz Dolny. The second edition has started in October 2017.



COMMON ROOM

– so a place of integration of Polish and international students, open from Monday to Friday at 15:30-19:30 in the room GG-210 (Main KUL Building). Within the activities offered in the Common Room we also organize various events connected with Polish kitchen and traditions of different countries, a variety of workshops and visits in cultural institutions (such as: cinema, theater or philharmonic). Moreover, we also provide a possibility to take part in various trips to the most interesting places of the region.

Courses and trainings carried out under the project are open to foreigners not holding a citizenship of any of the EU countries, who are: students of higher education institutions in Lublin or high school students and students of primary schools, junior high schools, high schools, post-secondary schools, artistic schools; people working in Lublin or those seeking a job and their family members; also those who are leaders in their migrants' communities.

Participation in the project is free of any charges!

Contact us for more information:

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Application forms are available online at the project website: www.kul.pl/otwartaintegracja in the „project information”.

Facebook: Open.Integration



THE OFFICIAL CELEBRATION OF THE END OF THE FIRST EDITION OF OUR TRAININGS AND COURSES

On the 1st of June 2017 we had our official celebration of the end of the first edition of the trainings carried out within the “Open Integration” project. The meeting was attended by our participants, project team, volunteers and invited guests. On that occasion participants of our trainings and courses received their certificates. The event was enriched by the performances of the music bands connected with KUL, so The Shrinks and Re-Tune.





II EDITION OF THE ORIENTATION WEEK

for new international students. This year we had 23 students from countries such as: Indonesia, Ukraine, Panama, the Philippines, Vietnam, Taiwan and India. During a 5-day cycle of activities our participants got to know the most important aspects of living and studying in Lublin and in Poland. From the very beginning our participants were introduced into the Polish history and culture, we also had a meeting with student taking part in the first edition of the Orientation Week. During the next days international students participated in integrative workshops with Polish students, took part in a short tour of the City or they have visited offices and institutions connected with contacting and supporting foreigners.

One of the participants of the Orientation Week 2017, Rafael Vidal has shared his thoughts about the event with us:

Rafael Vidal – From Panamá to Poland

If you ask me, about my impression of the Orientation Week at KUL, for sure I should start from the very beginning. First of all, I was very scared, never in my live I imagined that I will have the opportunity to study in Poland and less in the University where one of the most iconic popes was a teacher.

Scared because I didn't know anyone, because as a normal human being I was wondering about that cultural wall that could be an obstacle in my integration with the other guys and girls who attend to the same event. People from Taiwan, Ukraine, the Philippines, Vietnam, Portugal, Indonesia...

However, it was just at the beginning.

After the dynamics and the good intention of the teachers and others foreign students who were there just to offer us their help, the mind anxiety collapse and when the classes starts everything was much easier. And I don't think just for me, I'm pretty sure, for all of us.

To my surprise, they teach us a lot: how to move in the city, the important points of our migration status and how to solve any issues in our way, they give us journey through the history of Poland, through your culture and for all of that I am very grateful.





SUMMER SCHOOL

„Protection of Migrants’ Rights” 2017: In July 2017 we have organized the second edition of the Summer School on migrant’s rights in which we had 30 students coming from Ukraine, Indonesia, Salvador, India, Georgia, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Zimbabwe, and Tunisia. They participated in an intensive program covering such classes as: migration and asylum law, religious freedom in Europe, workshops on establishing associations and other non-governmental organizations, the rule of law and the civil society or freedom of movement of persons in the European Union.

A comprehensive program of classes and activities was supplemented by networking visits – so visits to institutions and organizations dealing with supporting and contacting foreigners. The participants have visited: the Lublin City Hall, Voivodeship Office, the Rule of Law Institute Foundation, Center for the Meeting of Cultures in Lublin and Border Guards Unit in Lublin.

News from the Common Room



It's been a fruitful year in the Common Room! For the whole academic year our daily meetings were often interrupted by special events, interesting trips and meetings with extraordinary people. Let us introduce you to our activities of the past months!





WORKSHOP: PHOTOGRAPHY AS A TOOL TO GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER

On 27th of March our special guest Barbara Lebedowicz, ACC ICF coach taught us how to use our personal photos to communicate with other people in the process of introducing to one another. We learned how to improve our interpersonal skills and embrace other people's points of view on our first impression. It was a great lesson for us to learn that everyone has got his way of understanding the world that surrounds us, which will surely improve our future integration!

MY BEST SUMMER VACATIONS: NEW YORK & WASHINGTON D. C. BY EMIL

Thanks to Emil we had a chance to cross the ocean and see the East Coast of the USA without moving from the Common Room! That evening we took a walk down the streets, saw photos and videos of these two famous American cities. We also learned some useful tips on getting and applying for visa, taking a flight to the US and picking the most impressive attractions. Next time we are definitely going with Emil!





UKRAINIAN DAY

On 26th of April a big group of our participants from Ukraine, in cooperation with the OI Team, prepared a special, Ukraine-themed evening. Our friends introduced us to the culture, geography and curiosities of this beautiful land. We had a lot of fun singing local songs together, tasting food from different parts of the country and even learned how to make a folk doll-lalka motanka!





AFRICAN DAY

It was a big challenge, but we made it! We managed to unite central and southern parts of the continent in one evening! Our participants with cooperation with our team took us on a trip to Africa without moving from Lublin. We experienced unforgettable cooking performance, listened to local songs and watched a folk dance show. After that we tasted delicious traditional homemade dishes. If you ever wanted to taste a worm-regret that you hadn't been there on 19th of May!



A MEETING WITH PROF. BOGUSŁAW MAREK

On 25th of May we had a great pleasure to host a real Officer of the Order of the British Empire and what's more, a scientist, inventor, traveler and social activist. Professor Marek told us about his excursions to Nepal, his activity and experience in working for the blind, and showed some of his inventions used by him daily. The meeting was extremely interesting and inspirational!



WORKSHOP: RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN EUROPE

On 24th of May our special guest, Michał Zawiślak, PhD encouraged us to discuss on a quite difficult but also very interesting topic. Thanks to him we had an opportunity to exchange our opinions on religious freedom and its consequences in Europe. Our participants coming from various countries, cultures and backgrounds were pleased to be a part of the discussion!



GET INVOLVED! STUDENTS' ORGANIZATIONS AT KUL

Our participants had a chance to discover various ways of using their time in a very productive way. The guests, including leaders of university circles, associations and organizations, introduced them to the world of social activity within our University. Thanks to them we know that studying is not only about learning and partying :)



BONFIRE AT SKANSEN

To start the springtime in a good way we decided to organize a bonfire at The Lublin Open Air Village Museum. We were having sausages, talking, laughing, playing guitar and singing, but most of all, we had a lot of fun cherishing wonderful weather together!



WSEI-KUL INTEGRATIVE PARTY

On 13th of June we met both to promote the project and have some fun together. We organized karaoke evening with live music played by the band "Bez Próby". It was fun!





WHY KUL? A MEETING WITH REV. PROF. ANDRZEJ SZOSTEK

Our last event before vacations was a meeting with rev. prof. Andrzej Szostek, Rector of KUL in the years 1998-2004. During a meeting entitled „WHY KUL?” he shared with us his experiences connected with studying at KUL, also creating a long discussion with our participants. A meeting as held on 21st of June 2017.

Remember that organizing the events depends on your suggestions too! If you have your own idea to organize something within the Common Room in the winter semester 2017/2018 please contact us:

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CELEBRATION OF THE 30th ANNIVERSARY OF THE VISIT OF “HOLY FATHER” AT KUL

On the 9th of June 1987 the Pope John Paul II during a visit in his homeland has also visited the John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin and met with representatives of different sciences from entire Poland and with the academic community of the University. On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of this event the University has organized a special celebration commemorating that day. Connected with that an international conference took place organized by the Faculty of Law, Canon Law and Administration, entitled „Church and its rights in teaching of the saint John Paul II”. Proceeded by a mass for the gift of the person of John Paul II, celebrated in the KUL Academic Church which was conducted by the Vice-Rector for Student’s Affairs, rev. prof. Andrzej Kiciński. The whole event was accompanied by an exhibition devoted to Karol Wojtyła that could be seen in the University Museum, presenting of a movie connected with a visit, and also displaying memories of the University staff from the time of the visit.



LAWnews

THE END OF VISAS FOR UKRAINIAN CITIZENS!

With the 11th of June 2017 and obligation to possess a visa for Ukrainian citizens travelling to EU was abolished. From that day they can enter the European Union territory without a visa for a period of 90 days (during 6 months) for touristic, family or business purposes. However, the abolition of visas does not mean the abolition of basic border requirements of the Schengen area.

In order for citizens of Ukraine to enjoy the privilege of visa-free travel they should:

- possess a valid biometric passport;
- justify the purpose and conditions of the planned stay;
- possess health insurance and required financial resources.



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