

# How has the media shaped public opinion on critical instances of EU history?



How strong are the stereotypes they created and to what extent they affect the process of European integration?

## Inter Alia is inviting you to apply for joining the Greek team of the "In Retrospect" project.

"In Retrospect" is a project that explores the core European values through activities of remembrance and collective reflection. For 12 months, 640 citizens from 3 "old" EU member states (Greece, Germany, Belgium) which were actively involved in Yugoslav conflicts and 4 Western Balkan countries (Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia & Bosnia and Herzegovina).

## Activities will take place between November 2016 and August 2017.

## **About the Project**

The Yugoslav wars constitute one of the most regrettable instances in EU's 60-year-long history. "In Retrospect" focuses on an often disregarded aspect of EU's involvement: the stance of public opinion. Citizens' attitude will be analyzed and summarized by looking into the role of the media as a force shaping public opinion and a non-negligible policy maker. The project will discuss:

- Patterns of citizens' involvement in decision making;
- Changing attitude toward information and
- Responsibility of EU towards third countries.

This project aims to contribute to improve self-awareness through analytical thinking and empathy. Furthermore, it aims to cultivate civic attitudes and effective conflict management comparing and examining the public attitudes towards ongoing conflicts and its impact on EU's foreign policy will be made. Finally, our goal is to promote EU integration by fostering reconsideration of EU's enlargement policy and raising awareness on distorted memories and false perceptions of both sides.



The selected participants will make up a team that will collaborate for the production of a short documentary film and a historical archive of Greek press coverage of critical phases of the Yugoslav conflicts in the 1990s. Participants will acquire skills of video production, archive creation as well as theoretical knowledge related to identity and remembrance.

# Remuneration for participants' contribution will be provided.

## **Detailed Program Information**

### **Activities & Tasks**

Capacity Building Activity: 21 - 28 of November in Arta, Greece.

#### **Trainers**

- Dr Dimitris Akrivoulis Assistant professor (University of Macedonia)
- Silas Michalakas Documentarist (Inter Alia)
- Dr Kostis Karpozilos Historian (Director of the Archives of contemporary Social History)
- Nikos Pasamitros Political Scientist (Panteion University)

# **Field Research & Documentary Production**

Location: Greece

Field Research: 50 semi-structured interviews per EU country on citizens' memory of the Union's foreign policy during Yugoslav wars and its evolution until now. Perspectives on enlargement will also be requested by interviewees particularly regarding perceived cultural and political impediments. Documentary production: Selected interviewees (5 per country) will be asked to repeat their opinions on camera. Their memories and perceptions will be edited into a 30-minute documentary.

#### **Archive Creation**

Location: Greece

Based on skills acquired during the CBA team members will create a press registry with news of EU media from critical instances of the Yugoslav wars.

#### **Final Event**

Location: Belgrade

Dates: 24/6/2017-25/6/2017

During the final event partner organizations will present the findings of the project: the press registry, the documentary, the field research and the case study analysis. A simulation game and a session of forum-theater will be held. Screenings of movies and documentaries related to the Yugoslav wars will take place. In the end, there will be a celebration that will include food and music.

If you are interested and want to join, please, fill in the application form. For more information you can call us at **+30 6980742148**.