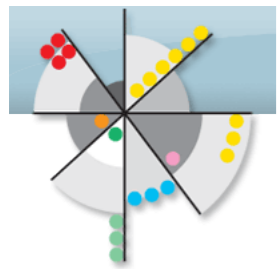




FONDAZIONE L'ALBERO DELLA VITA ONLUS- Coordinator of the project
Fondazione L'Albero della Vita (FADV) was established in 29.07.2004 with the aim to protect and respond to all forms of abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence against children in Italy and in the developing countries. It's a large organisation working all over Italy, in Europe and in some developing countries. Moreover, the Foundation promotes campaigns to raise awareness on children's rights in the world. Its commitment is widely recognized by local, national and international institutions and made possible by its numerous supporters, both enterprises and individuals.
FADV as coordinator is responsible for the overall management of the project, coordination of tasks, liaison with the Commission and management of the budget. It will be responsible for all the reporting and it will ensure relevant visibility to the donors providing the grant.



FONDAZIONE ISMU
ISMU – Initiatives and Studies on Multiethnicity - was founded in 1991 and in 1993 attained the legal status of "Foundation". ISMU is an autonomous and independent organization promoting studies, research, projects, inquiries and initiatives concerning multiethnic and multicultural society, in particular focusing on the phenomenon of international migration flows, such as those related to social and demographic aspects, education, labour market, law, health, housing, culture and religion. ISMU will be responsible for the implementation of the National research in Italy and for the realization of the European volume.



UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA
The UB is a public University and it was founded in 1450. Degrees are offered in 73 different areas of teaching with numerous postgraduate and doctorate programs as well as continuing education courses. The UB is the largest of the six universities of Barcelona and of the ten in Catalonia. It is ranked the first Spanish university, and the twenty third European institutions, in scientific quality and productivity. Moreover it is Spain's leading Research University, publishing more research than any other Spanish institution with the exception of CSIC, the national research council.
The University of Barcelona will be responsible of the Spanish research and of the dissemination of the research results across Spain.



FUNDACIÓ INSTITUT DE REINSENCIO SOCIAL IReS
IReS (Fundació Institut de Reinserció Social) is a non-profit organization. Since its creation in 1969, it carries out a social task, assistance, educational and preventive addressed to people and collectives who live in a deprived situation, economic precariousness or in social exclusion. IReS mission is to develop innovative and qualified social activities in order to help people and to deal with emerging social problems, intending to have also effect on the roots of social conflicts and exclusion. In cooperation with the University of Barcelona, IReS will be responsible of the Spanish research.



ASSOCIATIA ALTERNATIVA SOCIALE
Alternative Sociale Association (AAS) is a non governmental organization established in 1997 by a group of students from the Cuza University of Iasi, Faculty of Social Assistance. Alternative Sociale Association works to protect and promote human rights through prevention activities, assistance, training, research and advocacy in several areas, such as human trafficking, child victims of abuse/neglect, elder persons, labor exploitation, promoting non-custodial alternatives for detention, negative effects of migration, training for professionals, promotion of volunteering, studies and research, lobby and advocacy, juvenile delinquency. In particular, AAS has a great experience on the subject of migration. AAS will be responsible of the implementation of the National research in Romania, for the identification and dissemination of good practices among specialists.

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS IN ACTION

Improving children's rights in migration across Europe. The Romanian case.



Project co-funded by the European Union's Fundamental Rights and Citizenship Programme



“PROJECT CO-FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION’S FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND CITIZENSHIP PROGRAMME”

The Fundamental Rights and Citizenship Programme aims to promote the development of a European society based on respect for fundamental rights and rights derived from citizenship of the European Union.

Its further objectives are:

- to strengthen civil society and to encourage an open, transparent and regular dialogue with it in respect of fundamental rights;
- to fight against racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism;
- to improve the contacts, exchange of information and networking between legal, judicial and administrative authorities and the legal professions; and
- by supporting judicial training, the Fundamental Rights and Citizenship programme will lead to better mutual understanding among such authorities and professionals.



In the framework of Fundamental Rights and Citizenship Programme, DG Justice of the **European Commission funded a research project** coordinated by **L’Albero della Vita Foundation**. The project started implementing in March 2011 in three countries with the following partners: ISMU Foundation, University of Barcelona, Alternative Sociale Association and IRES Foundation. The **overall objective** of the research is to understand **needs of children migrating from Romania** to Italy and Spain, and those who **returned to Romania** after a migration experience, **to develop good practices** in order to reduce their vulnerability and protect their rights.

Main objectives of the project are the following:

- To conduct the **first organic research** on the condition of Romanian children migrating from Romania to Italy and Spain and to identify the challenges they face in their integration process.
- To **analyse** for the first time the **cases of children who returned to Romania** after a failed experience of migration to Italy or Spain. Causes of failure and effects of returning (with or without the parents) will be analysed.
- To **identify and produce a set of good practices** to assure to Romanian children their rights and to address specific emerging issues in Italy and Spain.
- To **sensitize Italian, Spanish and Romanian citizenship** and **disseminate the good practices** to institutions and non state actors daily committed to migration issues.

More information: <http://www.alberodellavita.org/children-rights-IT>

If you want to receive the quarterly newsletter, please register in this address.

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CONTEXT:

It is indeed a proven reality that due to the different economical power between member States in Europe, many EU citizens decide every day to leave their country in search of a better life. This is the case of Romania, where more than 3 million out of an active population of 9.9 millions migrated abroad, mainly to Italy and Spain.

Often, adults migrate from Romania alone, leaving temporarily their children at home in care of grandparents or members of the extended family. Other times, adults migrate together with their children. Due to the high number of **stereotypes about Romanians** in Italy and Spain, Romanian children tend to lie about their origins to prevent discrimination acts by their peers. These children need urgently to be supported to adapt to the new context and understand how to enjoy their rights in the receiving country.

Furthermore, the field assessment confirms that there is no real perception and knowledge of this specific situation and about the condition of Romanian children migrating to Italy and Spain and the protection of their rights. This project, funded by **Fundamental Rights and Citizenship Programme of the European Commission**, wants to be a tool aiming to fill this gap.

The research analyzes **the condition of Romanian children** migrating to Italy and Spain and to identify the challenges they face in their integration process. In the other side, the research analyzes the cases of **children who returned to Romania** after a failed experience of migration. Italy and Spain and to develop good practices in order to reduce their vulnerability and protect their rights.

By: **Fondazione L’Albero della Vita - Onlus**

ADDED VALUE:

First, this research is the first one ever conducted on the topic from highly known academic and research institutions.

Second, this Action will bring under the spotlight a phenomenon which has been too quickly put in the shadow, without having been solved. With access of Romania in the EU in 2007, all Romanian citizens who were in other European countries such as Italy and Spain, saw, from one day to the next, their status change from non-EU to EU citizens. Controls and limitation to migrations were abolished and they started enjoy the freedom of movement that belongs to all European citizens. As a consequence, from that moment there is no more data or information about their presence and their living condition, social integration capacity and opportunity, their awareness about their rights. From field assessment, there is reason to believe that even if their legal status has changed, their condition have not followed the change, but simply is not known anymore. This Action has the great added value to analyze and research for causes and possible good practices to modify this situation to solve this problem, not only hide it.

Third, publications issued by the Action will be used in at least two University, one in Milan and one in Barcelona, as part of material for students attending Bachelor and Masters Programmes in Education and Social Work.



EXPECTED RESULTS:

- 1 publication hosting the Italian research, analyzing social and psychological effects of migration on Romanian children in Italy.
- 1 publication hosting the Spanish research, analyzing social and psychological effects of migration on Romanian children in Spain.
- 1 publication hosting the Romanian research, analyzing social and psychological effects of remigration on children to support local and national policies on social assistance and mental health.
- 1 publication hosting the European volume, containing good practices based on the researches in Spain, Romania and Italy.

