



REPORT TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEERS SPAIN 2019

<https://web.ua.es/es/iuit/seminarios/inclusion/2019/inclusion-of-roma-and-migrants-in-schools.html>

1 PREPARATION PHASE OF THE TRAINING:

1.1 **Program Development** (January – February 2019)

The seminar for volunteer training at Universidad de Alicante (Spain) took place on February 15th, 2019. Addressed to students and professionals interested in volunteer activities aimed at this profile of Roma and migrant children and youths. Within the seminar, it was possible to share experiences and good practices that are being carried out both in Spain and in other European countries.

31 students and professionals attended an 8-hour course under the following program:

SEMINAR FOR VOLUNTEERS ON THE INCLUSION OF ROMA AND MIGRANTS IN SCHOOLS

Aim of the Training for Volunteers:

The aim of the training for volunteers was to give students an opportunity to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes to assess volunteering needs and develop a programme for volunteering activity.

Objectives:

Participants were introduced to the project general objectives and specifically to two related working packages, namely WP training for volunteers and the volunteering activity. Participants were able to understand and gain knowledge on volunteerism. Through the training they were able to identify challenges in volunteering and define innovative projects.

Participants learnt about volunteering activities from international case studies and experience of real volunteers and provided fresh ideas on issues that can be improved.

Besides they were able to anticipate difficult situations in volunteering setting such as participant's low motivation, resistance in groups, etc.

Participants understood the issue of integration of Roma and migrants in their national schools and they were able to compare domestic situation with international practice. The

participants also created and shared new ideas/projects about supporting schools in integration of Roma and migrant children in schools.

They understood the process of implementation of volunteering activity such as, preparation phase, recording of daily activity, and writing a short report after the seminar has ended. We developed the training programme mainly focusing on identifying target groups, needs analysis, and training goal setting. An evaluation survey was provided for the sake of improvement for further training actions.

1.2 Speakers

All speakers were academics or experts in the field of inclusion of youth in community work, the latter providing practical knowledge in support of upcoming volunteering activity foreseen within the project activities.

Training was facilitated by:

Susana de Juana, Ana Rosser and Rafael Lafont from University of Alicante.

Patricia Soler (Center for Student Assistance, Expert in University volunteering at University of Alicante).

Juan David Santiago (Consultant for the Vicerectorate for Social Issues, University of Alicante).

Vicente Briet (psychologist at Nazaret School).

Diana Guijarro (Technician at Alicante town hall, Dept. for the prevention of School Absenteeism).

Yasmina Benchicheub (expert in Roma and migrant children education).

Alejandro Novella (expert in Roma children integration).

1.3 Invited participants

For this purpose, volunteers, university students and representatives from NGOs dealing with Roma issues were invited to attend the training. The training for volunteers was planned as one-day face-to-face event.

The invitations for the event were sent individually to the prospective volunteers as well as to the University of Alicante students and Centres, Departments and Institutes involved in the project. Besides e-mail, we advertised the events also through posters and Facebook together with volunteering activities. Participants registered for the event through our electronic system available at: <http://mfdps.1ka.si/a/544?language=9>

1.4 E-classroom (open access)

Before the implementation of the training, we asked the attendants to read the materials at the open e-classroom, with free access, in Spanish language. All the materials presented and discussed at the training are available in e-classroom at <https://elearning.romigsc.eu/courses/spanish/>

The online program was completed with the face-to-face seminar on the 15th February, 2019. For acquiring the ECTS credits, the attendants had to carry out autonomous work with all the



material on the e-classroom, complete (and pass) a multiple choice quiz and write an essay about one of these topics:

- 1.- Social Responsibility and ethical behavior, stereotypes, and prejudices.
- 2.- Intercultural competencies to successfully work in a cross-cultural social environment.
- 3.- Discrimination in different social contexts.
- 4.- Intercultural education and its significance in today's life.

2.DELIVERY OF THE TRAINING

Date/Location: Friday, February 15th, 2019; University of Alicante, Spain

Nº of speakers: 10

Nº of participants: 52 participants were registered for the event

The project's promotion materials were distributed.

Training program:

9:00-9:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Presentation of the RoMigSc Project, objectives and methodology. José Luis Gascó and Diana Gil (Vicerrectora de Responsabilidad Social UA).▪ Workshop: Volunteer role, challenges and how to deal with different situations. Patricia Soler.
9:30-11:00	
11:00-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Team work and thematic discussion on the online material, essay and presentations. Rafael Lafont.▪ Good practices on volunteer work activity with Roma and migrants. Susana de Juana y Ana Rosser.
13:30-14:00	
14:30-15:30	Lunch
15:30-17:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Multicultural environment and how to overcome stereotypes and prejudices. Methods to solve conflict situations. Roma Foundation. Alejandro Nombela.▪ Round table: How to improve the inclusión of Roma and migrant children in schools. Volunteer opportunities. Yasmina Benchicheub, Vicente Briet and Diana Guijarro.
17:00-18:30	

Seminar	Nº Inscriptions	Attendants
Volunteer	52	31

Morning sessions:

The training for volunteers was delivered as planned. It was a success, and there are already some people who are interested in volunteering in the project. In particular, the session where students were put to work on the design of volunteering activities were appreciated.



In the first part of the training, welcome addresses were given, and the coordinator of the project in Spain presented the aim of the project and the role of the volunteers in it. The presentation was focused on the WP3 and WP4 on volunteering activities such as: preparation phase, recording of daily activities, the role of the mentor and writing a short report after completion of the activity.



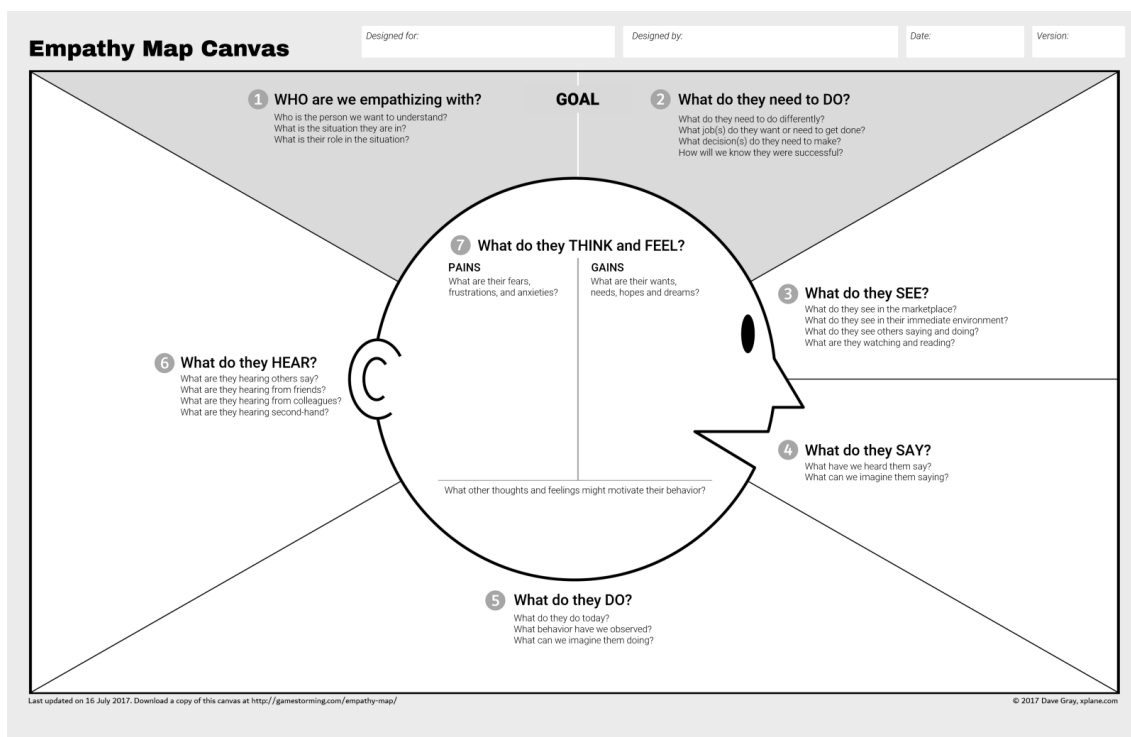
Teamwork and thematic discussion: Rafael Lafont

In addition, the e-classroom was presented and the materials available in electronic system were showed. Rafael Lafont explained a teamwork methodology and he proposed a thematic discussion on the online material, essay and presentations. 8 groups were defined according to the following topics:

- GROUP 1: STEREOTYPES
- GROUP 2: PREJUDICES
- GROUP 3: DISCRIMINATION
- GROUP 4: INTERCULTURAL COMPETENCES
- GROUP 5: DISCRIMINATION
- GROUP 6: INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION
- GROUP 7: ETHICS
- GROUP 8: SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

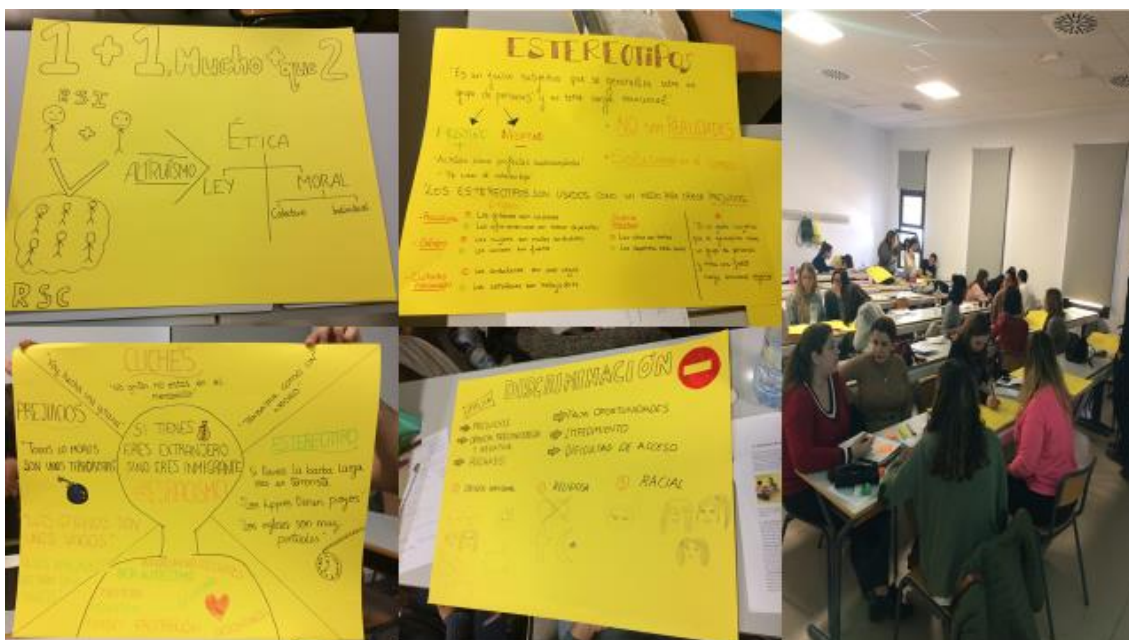


Each group explained the concepts of each theme. After that, they used the empathy map to explain a selected problem and the challenge to solve. After a brainstorming, each group defined an innovative project that could solve the problem.





Proposals presented by the attendees:





Afternoon sessions

Fundación del Secretariado Gitano. Roma Foundation.



A lot of participants indicated that they had volunteering experience through different projects or that they had attended trainings and workshops related to volunteering. In order to identify challenges in volunteerism, a discussion was opened. Examples about different events and ways of inclusion of Roma children in schools and raising awareness of volunteerism were presented. The participants were motivated to become volunteers. They indicated that besides the gained knowledge, skills and certificate of attendance, volunteer work would complete the outlook.

Participants were asked to provide feedback through evaluation questionnaires and were informed that they will be contacted through e-mail and phone about future volunteering activities and their decision to become a volunteer in this project.

At the end of the training the certificates of attendance were delivered.

Breaks and lunch times were also used for informal discussion and creating networks among participants.

3. EVALUATION OF THE TRAINING AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Figures 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 summarize the results of the evaluation. The evaluation questionnaire was available at: <http://mfdps.1ka.si/a/501&preview=on>

In Fig 1, we can see that the evaluation was done by 30 respondents in Spain. Most of them were students (73%) and female (90.0%).

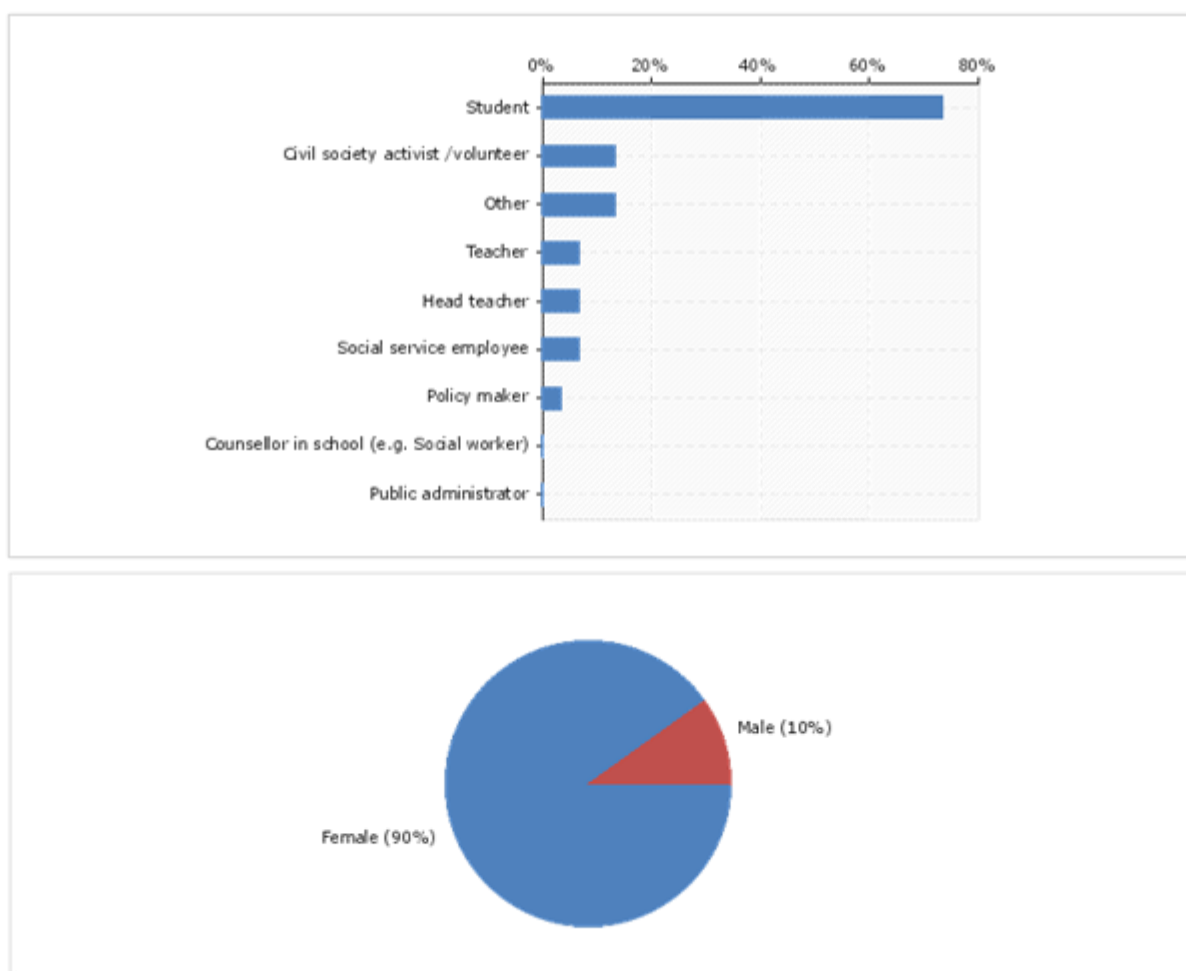
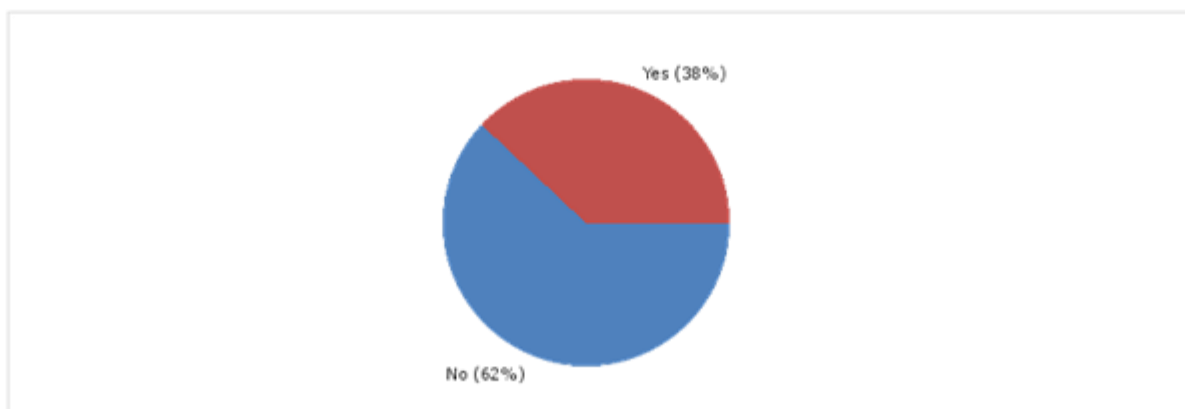


Fig. 2 shows that 62% of the attendants have no prior experience with specific methods of Roma and migrant children integration in a learning environment.



As Fig. 3, Assessment of content and methodology of presentations, indicates, the respondents were quite satisfied with the training, especially the international cases and the general discussions.

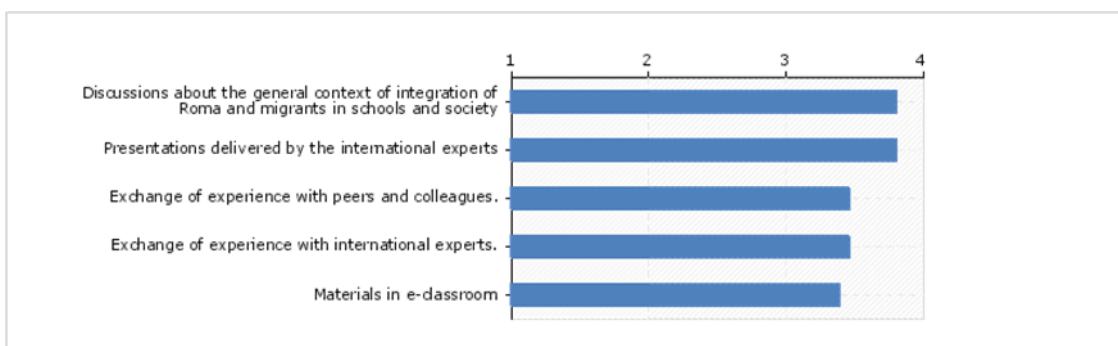
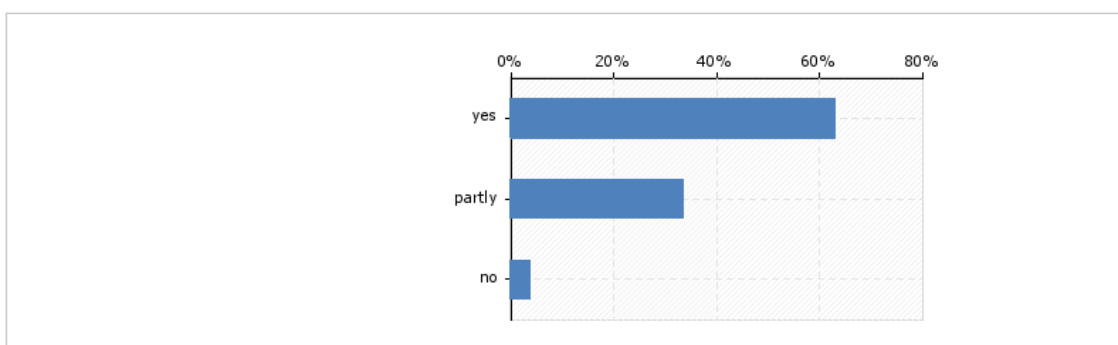
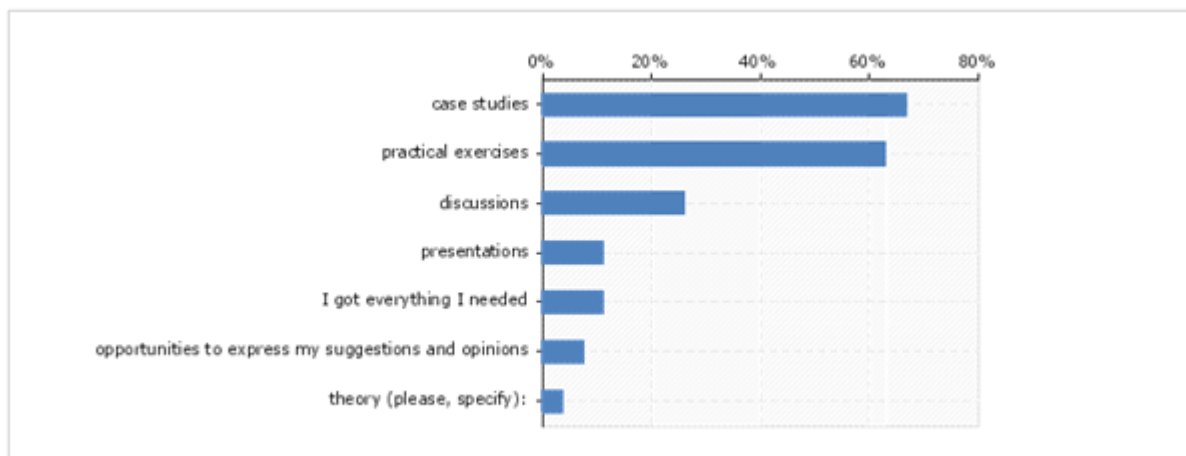


Fig 4 suggests that participants were mostly satisfied with the opportunities to express their suggestions and opinions during the event (63%).



From Fig, 5, we can conclude that improvements of further training for the volunteers should include more case studies and practical exercises.



From the evaluations given by the participants, we can extract the following (policy) recommendations:

It was exposed the specific difficulties and the typical context and problems of these target groups: Roma and migrant students usually live immersed in a neighborhood socially unprotected. Many of students' families have a high degree of social exclusion with the consequent risk to their progeny; it is frequent the lack of educational references inside family and virtually nil levels of educational involvement and/or perception of the importance in the education of sons and, especially, daughters. The students relate in and out of the center with the same partners. Sometimes social relations among these students are chaotic, worn out, vitiated and conflictive.

We extract policy recommendations in order to improve the role of volunteers:

- It is important to collaborate among all institutions.
- Solving conflicts and empathy are the way to improve in this field.
- Very interesting to share good practices to learn and to adapt new projects.
- Focus on discrimination and language barriers for designing activities in multicultural environment.
- There is a need for inclusion of more volunteers, debates, trainings for the integration of Roma children in schools.
- Be careful when to use workers and when to use volunteers inside the projects.
- Presence of international experts would be considered as an additional asset to these trainings.
- Similar seminars should be practical and guest coming from different contexts should be invited to share their experience about inclusion of different marginalised social groups.
- More knowledge of cooperation and understanding of each other.
- Raising interest among young people for volunteering.
- More opportunities to exchange practical experience with colleagues.



Suggestions for seminar and project improvements: In the questionnaire we also asked the participants about the most valuable lessons learned during the seminars and suggestions thinking in improvements. We extract several comments about that:

- Short time to do all the tasks.
- Highlight the multicultural models of students, professionals and citizens in general so that the change of multicultural paradigm is observed.
- To learn more about these significant collectives in our society and, in turn, how to help them.
- Focus on cultural diversity.
- Promote teamwork in that field.
- Share and expand knowledge and ways of life.
- Volunteering, and especially with this type of people who are more prone to suffer social exclusion, enriches those who offer part of their time and effort for the welfare of others.
- The visions we have about volunteering activities, as well as stereotypes or prejudices and discrimination.
- Respect for empathy and tolerance.
- I have gained professional experience.
- All the topics discussed in the seminar were interesting, especially the presentation adding value to volunteering,
- I can contextualize the theory given from the platform and presentations in practice through the practical exercise.
- The importance of teamwork.
- I think it was very interesting to talk about the absenteeism of the Roma children at schools, as it is something that we think it is not given and it is very important to take action in these situations.
- Include examples of the educational work done from other entities and thus cracking networks.



Inclusion of Roma and Migrants in Schools
Trainings, Open Discussions
and Youth Volunteering Activities

<https://romigsc.eu>



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ATTENDANCE LIST

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Project. Ref. No.:	580228-EPP-1-2016-1-SI-EPPKA3-IPI-SOC-IN
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Country/city and of event:	Alicante (Spain)

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