



THE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS TO STRENGTHEN THE DIALOGUE AND THE PARTNERSHIP IN THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN

THE ROLE OF ANNA LINDH FOUNDATION in the support to the Culture in its relationship with territory for democracy and civil rights.

Heads of National Network Meeting Lefkosia (Nicosia), Cyprus 8th to the 11th of November 2012,

In the last 16 years, the funds allocated at different title by the European Union for south Mediterranean countries have been, as a whole, superior to 35 billions of euro. These funds have been used for initiatives aimed at promoting the democratic reforms, the economic and social development, the respect of human and civil rights, the liberalization of commercial exchanges and the rediscovery of common cultural traditions.

The Anna Lindh Italian Network is firmly convinced that the participation of Mediterranean civil companies has to be promoted with continuous and effective actions to be able to plan common development of strategies that can effectively support other specific actions for democracy, stability and human rights. These actions can or have to be guaranteed with the enlargement of a strong, autonomous and politically and culturally pluralist "civil society" able to stabilize and make the development and integration programs useful to meet the needs of populations according to the real needs of improvement of quality of life. You must also have the civic courage to openly claim that lay status has to be recognized as the element supporting positive tolerance and that is necessary for the creation of a climate of pragmatic and factual partnership.

So, given what is happening in our World, we can't confine ourselves to support export of the European model of economic development, but an appropriated innovated model has to be defined to promote the rational and sustainable use of resources and a correct redistribution of richness, the only useful model for peace and democracy. This development model that we should call to the attention of the governments will have to foster also a new political and cultural feature not only of the citizenship in the South Mediterranean countries, but a real new European identity will have to be defined together with the EU countries and built on the unprecedented rejoining of North Europe and West Eurasia with its cultural, economic and philosophical roots in the Mediterranean.

The role of the Foundation of the networks of Anna Lindh's civil companies can and has to become an effective instrument of this work on the cultural front and of the landscape heritage of Mediterranean. To correctly make all of this, it has to be put in the conditions to

Per contatti:

Fondazione Mediterraneo

Indirizzo: Via De Pretis 130, 80133 Napoli
Tel: +39 081 552 30 33 - +39 335 6858623
Fax: +39 081 4203273

michele.capasso@fondazionemediterraneo.org

Paralleli - Istituto Euromediterraneo del Nord Ovest

Indirizzo: via La Salle, 17 - 10152 Torino
Tel: +39 011/522 98 43; +39 011 522 98 22
Fax: +39 011/522 98 30

elisa.adorno@paralleli.org

be able to manage, that is to address the management of resources that European Commission distributes for these countries. There will be the need of many capitals to proceed to a credible and self-sustained development of South Mediterranean countries, and this availability of means is useful to everybody both in the EU and outside of it.

In our opinion, in particular, the Foundation will have to positively interfere to address the resources for:

1. Making of teaching a central vector of learning of diversity and knowledge of the other
2. Fostering the mobility, the exchange and the valorisation of capabilities, competences and better social practices
3. Making of mass medias a privileged instrument at the service of the principle of equality and mutual acknowledge

It seems appropriate to remember what the "Report by the High-Level Advisory Group established at the initiative of President of the European Commission" about "The dialogue between peoples and cultures in the Euro-Mediterranean Area" referring to the resources of the constituting Foundation (2003).

"... The second condition is that it be endowed with sufficient financial and administrative resources to cover its requirements. Clearly, the Foundation must have considerable resources, commensurate with the challenges it faces. Its activities are going to be expensive. It will need skilled staff who can act as catalysts for the activities carried out by the network and can call on a top-level academic committee that can give it irrefutable intellectual legitimacy in its relations with its partners. It will need competent administrators and experts on international, cultural and religious questions. It will also need an operating budget that is commensurate with its remit. Organising meetings, permeating the social fabric of 27 countries, running networks, archives and virtual libraries, maintaining permanent contacts with universities, research centres, NGOs and local associations, supervising, planning and monitoring, day after day, the progress being made in learning about the dialogue among young people, teacher training, changes in the media, school-twinning arrangements, all of this is costly in time, manpower and money. The disappointment that would be felt if it were to fail for lack of resources would be all the greater because of the high expectations being cherished.

This is why the Foundation must, in time, be allowed to call on private sponsorship. We see this as a way of enabling it to obtain means commensurate with the ambitious role it should be assigned. It must, therefore, be allowed to draw on a substantial level of private funding, although it will be for the Euro-Mediterranean Ministerial Conference to decide the exact proportions. The diversity of its sources of funding will be both a guarantee of autonomy and an indication of the extent to which the Foundation has embedded itself. It is after all the calibre, originality and effectiveness of its initiatives that will determine whether it succeeds in winning support from private backers".

In our opinion, it is necessary to effectively finance:

1. the common actions;
2. the management of national networks;
3. the notifications differently promoted by the Foundation.

First of all, it is necessary to ask Commission that at least 0.5% of the total of resources destined to the cooperation for Mediterranean are assigned to the Anna Lindh Foundation for point 1 and 2 even through a work with Parliamentary Commissions and a formal declaration of Parliamentary Assembly of Union for Mediterranean and that a joint workgroup

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Commission-Foundation alternatively to the management of the notifications of point 3 that can promote, manage and control the EU notifications dedicated to cultural partnership, such as Euromed Heritage in the context of a revision of the program Cultura 2014 – 2020 / Creative Europe and of ENPI for the culture 2014/2020 for South Mediterranean and East Black Sea.

- It is also necessary to establish that the adhesion fees at the Foundation by the Governments are structured as follows: one part (35% of the total) for the activities of the Secretariat and the remaining 65% to the activities of the national networks. At least 45% of this 65% will have to be allocated by the national networks to promote the active partnership with the other networks of the Foundation.
- It is necessary to start processes of “guaranteed” financing sustained by the Foundation for the cultural Euro-Mediterranean production in the form of small and medium loans at privileged interest rates with the support of the European Investment Bank – Mediterranean Branch. The Foundation has to constitute with 15% of 35% above a guarantee fund that can support the activity of microcredit/microfinance addressed to the Euro-Mediterranean cultural productions. The fitting example of what can be done even for the culture is this recent decision:
*“The first program supporting the Mediterranean region is ISMED (Investment Security in the Mediterranean Region), that will be carried out together with OCSE and that can lean on 1.5 millions of euro. ISMED will carry out evaluations on the level of the protection of investments given by local authorities, identifying the lacks and formulating the recommendations to face them.
A part of the 220 millions of euro of grants foreseen by the Neighbourhood Investment Facility (Nif) until the end of 2013 and will be used to launch the kit on the Risk and Cost Sharing Toolkit of ISMED. These initiatives could lead at least two billions of resources by the European financial institutions in various projects of infrastructures in the countries near EU. “These innovative instruments – the European Commissioner of Neighbourhood Policy Stefan Fule commented – are designed for helping our partner countries to attract in the most effective way the necessary investments for the private field, destined to big infrastructures” with a positive impact on “growth, workplaces and daily life for people in the region”.*
- Finally, it is necessary to invest 3% of 35% above to structure and to promote constant fundraising activities for the co-financing of projects within the Euro-Mediterranean cultural dialogue. This fundraising is destined to campaigns between private citizens, private companies and to the recourse at investment funds.

In particular, the Foundation could vouch for crowdfunding actions. Crowdfunding is a collaboration process of a group of people that use money with the help of the web putting it into common to support the efforts of people and organizations; it starts a financing process from below that mobilizes people and resources and allows the meeting of demand and supply of resources.

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The Foundation could be activated even through its own national networks to involve the enterprises that have always based their strategies on an idiosyncratic combination of reasoning and intuition. Producing useful and functional objects means more and more being able to invent new relationships between efficacy and beauty, translating the friendliness of complex objects in their aesthetically meaningful form. Not only beautiful, but also and above all able to reflect the identity of the user and his community; in one word, his culture. So, the enterprises organize the physical spaces and the production processes so as to embody creative innovations, even getting to the visual and perceptive heritage of our past (or of our imaginary future, as the pop art suggests): a good art library, a creative laboratory, shared spaces and areas “to lose time” together are the instruments that a growing number of enterprises adopts to be able to creatively qualify their activity, naturally at the advantage of the final consumers that can choose objects more and more full of meaning, but even to an undeniable profit of workers of the industrial field, whose professional [quality of life](#) becomes a diriment condition so that they can free their creative capability and their collective intelligence embodying them into more and more beautiful and useful products”. Therefore, rather than appealing to presumed moral duties to support and finance the culture, to focus on these advantages is enough to conclude that it is completely pertinent that every man, community or organization that receives advantages and utility from cultural production gives the culture an appropriate financial, symbolic and intangible exchange.

In this context, it is necessary to strengthen the idea of the function that museums and theatres (libraries, monuments and all the rest) carry out toward society, in particular the resident community. Every territorial community has to be helped and perceives the museum or the theatre as “its own”, brings the children to play, spends the lunch-time in working days, goes to buy and give presents. The individuals will have just this away the desire to support these multidimensional spaces that allow them so many occasions of welfare. It is also a consequence that the enterprises have all the strategic convenience to associate their brand to the specific culture that communicates with its community and gives it a large set of benefits in front of a so diffused and evident consent.

Finally, represent in every suitable seat that the true and irreplaceable benefit that culture produces for society, and in particular for its most dynamic and active components, is the motor of innovation. Creativity is not a merchandise that can be stocked and exchanged, but a way of being, a positive atmosphere that can be found in some places and periods. Anyway, it deals with a phenomenon able to take root into the seeds of territorial economy, that profits by an innovative attitude, an inclination to the risk higher than the average and the capability of prefiguring and interpreting unprecedented scenarios and the speed in drawing the prospects. A territory rich of culture is a beautiful place to visit. When the same territory puts its own culture into circulation making it become a shared trace, can transform itself into a promoter of welfare. So, creativity and symbolic and expressive capability become the vocabulary of growing, spreading into the whole community and translating in an acute perception and anticipation of needs, in the [innovation of process](#) and product, in the attraction of talents, competences and visions.

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Fax: +39 011/522 98 30

elisa.adorno@paralleli.org

coordination of the Anna Lindh Foundation: Fondazione Mediterraneo, Paralleli - Istituto Euromediterraneo del Nord Ovest

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Project “Mediterranean Networking: step one Lampedusa”
Common Action of the Italian network of the Anna Lindh Foundation

UPGRADE OF THE PROJECT – 4th of November 2012

Lampedusa in Festival

Fourth edition – Lampedusa, 19th – 23th of July 2012

The fourth edition of the LAMPEDUSAinFESTIVAL, a show that, for the second consecutive year, had the privilege to receive as representation prize the medal of honour by the President of Republic Giorgio Napolitano and that has been selected by UNAR (Ufficio Nazionale Antidiscriminazioni Razziali) as good practice against racism, registered a notable participation in terms of audience, witnessing a deep attention to the proposed events, that brought journalists, experts of the field and a different type of tourist in the island: international and careful to social and cultural themes.

The first emblematic venue has been the Porta d'Europa, a monument of Mimmo Paladino dedicated to the emigrants dead in the sea: the long series of rendezvous proposed by the festival started here with the official presentation, the intense play of Mohamed Ba and the concerts of Giacomo Sferlazzo and Alessio Greco.

One of the most significant moments has been the commemoration (throw of flowers from a boat) of the emigrants dead in the sea during the crossings of Mediterranean with the crew of the Boats4People project (www.boats4people.org), left with a schooner from the Tuscan coasts passing from Palermo and Monastir to arrive to Lampedusa.

The main venue, the suggestive Cala Palme, registered an excellent affluence during all the nights, some of which ended with the musical show of the Ciaudas and the Famiglia del Sud and with a theatrical performance of Pino Petruzzelli, on the box staged on the beach, at few centimetres from the sea.

The last night has been proposed with a jam session among all the artists present in the programming, like Mr. Nicola Alesini. Piazza Castello has also been very visited: presentations, projections and debates about books and not competing movies took place in the secondary venue.

Via Vittorio Emanuele, info point of the festival with a room dedicated to the interesting show of cartoons ““Oltre frontiera / Il viaggio di 32 disegnatori da 19 paesi, 4 continenti, 1 pianeta”” (realized by Gianpiero Caldarella and Marisa Paolucci) registered many visitors per night.

Another suggestive location has been the Isola dei Conigli: the stunning and renowned bay hosted the presentation of Gianluca Gatta's book “Luoghi Migranti. Tra clandestinità e spazi pubblici”. Everything has been refreshed by the cold coffee offered by the Rete del Caffè Sospeso. The context bewitched the dozens of people on the beach.

The kermess totally had over 50 hosts (meetings' rapporteurs, musicians, dramatic actors, etc.) and all the events have been enhanced by the witnesses of important figures in the artistic, cultural and social Italian landscape.

Important collaborations have been developed during the realization of this editions: with the Archivio delle Memorie Migranti, that realized the “Migrazioni e Memorie” section and has been the subject of some events; with ARCI and Amnesty International and with the Foundation Lettera27, that posted in public areas the witnesses of various immigrants within the project Luoghi Comuni – Piccole storie migranti.

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The Askavusa Association is the motor of the show with the support of the Anna Lindh Foundation, the Caritas of Agrigento and the collaboration of Amnesty International, ARCI, Recosol (Rete Comuni Solidali), Archivio delle Memorie Migranti and Legambiente. The festival had the patronage of Linosa and Lampedusa commons.

Almost 500 people totally participated to the debates held in Cala Palme. Almost 1000 people totally participated to the artistic and musical night events organized on the beach of the small harbour. Almost 800 people participated to the projection of the movies realized in the place of the Castello. Almost 100 people participated to the presentation of the festival and to the inauguration at the Porta d'Europa on the 19th of April together with Boats4People with the throw of flowers in the sea as a souvenir of the victims of the migrations.

The show "Oltre frontiera / Il viaggio di 32 disegnatori da 19 paesi, 4 continenti, 1 pianeta" that was exposed at the Ufficio Anagrafe in front of the common and was opened for all the days of the festival, has been visited by almost 300 people.

Next actions of the project

After the rich rendezvous of the fourth edition of the LampedusaInFestival entitled "L'incontro con l'Altro" held from 19th to 23rd of July 2012 in Lampedusa (see enclosed report) the territorial rendezvous foreseen by the project are organized.

In particular:

- Sardinia: meeting organized by Carovana SMI. It foresees the involvement of the Albanian partner of the project, the Sardinian members of the Italian network of FAL and the institutional operators and interlocutors of the island.

Foreseen dates: 13th and 14th of December 2012

- Piedmont: meeting organized by Paralleli. It foresees the involvement of the Tunisian partner of the project, the Piedmontese members of the Italian network of FAL and the institutional operators and interlocutors of the island.

Foreseen dates: 17th and 18th of December 2012

The meetings in Veneto (end of April) and in Lazio (March), foreseen for the first months of 2013, are also defined.

Document elaborated by Carlo Testini of ARCI

Per contatti:

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