

Challenges and innovations to support young people in exile in Europe

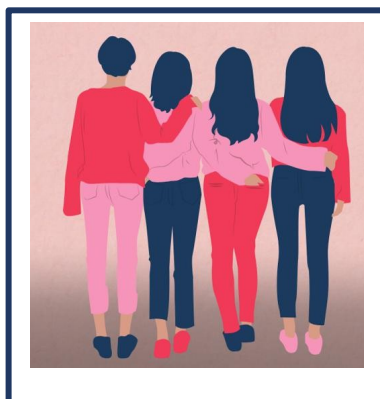
International Conference

Friday, 17 October 2025

Paris Refugee Centre

10b Rue Henri Ribière, 75019 Paris, France

Organised by Erasmus Expertise (France) and the University of Suceava
(Romania) In collaboration with the Maison des Réfugiés in Paris
Erasmus+ RENT project



Sales pitch:

The arrival of young people in a situation of exile in a member country of the European Union is accompanied by numerous structural and personal challenges. Among the obstacles most frequently encountered are language barriers, socio-economic insecurity, social isolation, the complexity of administrative procedures, and difficulties in accessing education and employment. In this context, the provision of structured support is of great importance.

Supporting young exiles, particularly through tutoring, is a complex and multidimensional issue. It involves issues of a social, psychological, educational and legal nature, and requires a systemic approach based on coordinating the various players and taking into account the whole person being supported. Supporting a young person in exile involves establishing a relationship of trust and working alongside them, taking into account the different dimensions of their identity: emotional, cultural, cognitive and social.

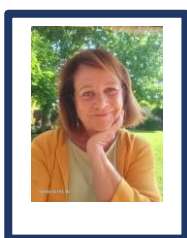
The tutoring relationship lies at the interface of social and educational logic. It involves the acquisition of knowledge and skills, inclusion in a new environment and identity-building. In this context, the tutor is invited to adopt a "third-party educator" stance, i.e. a mediating position that makes it possible to combine various aims: learning, personal development, training and problem-solving, while respecting the pace and individual pathway of the young person being supported.

The identification of needs, the alleviation of anxieties, the transmission of reference points, as well as the co-construction of a project for the future, are all central functions of support. These aspects will be at the heart of the discussions at the symposium on support for young exiles, based on an analysis of the Erasmus+ RENT project, co-sponsored by Erasmus Expertise (France) and the University of Suceava (Romania).

An interdisciplinary and multi-faceted approach will be favoured, crossing several perspectives: analysis of European policies on education and inclusion, the socio-pedagogical approach, first-hand accounts, as well as the artistic and expressive dimensions of the experience of exile. Particular attention will be paid to the place of writing in migratory journeys, seen as a trace, a tool for subjectivisation and a vector for reconstructing identity.

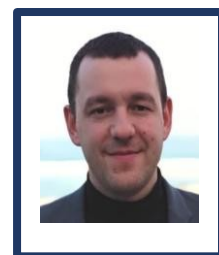
Finally, the central question guiding the discussions will be: **to what extent does support, in the context of exile, constitute a lever for rebuilding a life project on European territories?**

Scientific managers



Jacqueline Bergeron (France) President of the Erasmus Expertise international network, International Expert on Governance of Research, Higher Education and Training Systems, general coordinator of the European Erasmus+ Rent project.

Marin Gherman (Romania) Political scientist and journalist, Professor at Stefan cel Mare University in Suceava (Romania). Editor-in-chief of the BucPress media centre in Chernivtsi (Ukraine), coordinator of the European Erasmus +RENT project in Romania,



9.30am: Welcome coffee

1015: Introduction: **Jacqueline BERGERON** and **Marin GHERMAN** Co-leaders of the Erasmus+ RENT project- **Sophie HABERBUSH-SUEUR**- Maison des Réfugiés de Paris- Paris, France

Speech by the Vice-Rector of the University of Suceava (Romania) - remote intervention

10.45 - 11.45 Round table 1

European governance of exile: educational and inclusive policies

- The role of the EU and the Member States in structuring common and flexible governance to meet the needs of young people in exile
- Socio-economic inclusion policies: issues and challenges
- Examples of good practice (from countries that have implemented innovative inclusive models)

Debates

Moderator: Marin Gherman [Contributors](#)

Vasile GAFIUC (Romania) - Balkissou Hayatou (Cameroon) - Sergiu RAIU (Romania) -Pierre Stanley PERONO (France) -Pierre Stanley PERONO (France) -Pierre Stanley PERONO (France) -Sergiu RAIU (Romania) -Pierre Stanley PERONO (France)

11h45-12h00 :

Artistic interlude with Maryna PREPOTENSKA (Ukraine)

12.00-13.00

Round table 2

Educational and institutional approaches to the inclusion of young adults in exile

- Welcoming and supporting, yes, but how?
- Towards professional and institutional recognition for tutors?
- Educational resources for tutors: presentation of the Erasmus+ project learning platform

Debates

Moderator: Jacqueline Bergeron

Contributors

Lotfi OUANEZAR (France) -Stéphane Tournier (France)- Marin GHERMAN (Romania) - Virayuth HA (France)

13.00-14.30: Lunch on your own

AFTERNOON

14.30-16.00 Round table 3

Writing and exile: crossroads

- Identity, the experience of exile and expression through writing
- The place and function of writing in the adaptation process of people in exile
- The unspoken and the unspeakable in refugee literature
- An example of philosophical practice with young people in exile: the café philo

Moderators: Gina PUICA and Jacqueline

BERGERON Contributors:

Abdelaziz BARAKA SAKIN- (Sudan) Álvaro ALCAZAR (France) - Omar YOUSSEF SOULEIMANE (Syria) - Maya OMBASIC (Yugoslavia)- Maryna PREPOTENSKA (Ukraine)

Debates

16h-16h15: Break

4.15pm - 4.45pm

Journeys into exile: two personal accounts

- **Elyas**, 27, of Algerian origin, recently obtained refugee status in France. Highly committed, he has founded an association focusing on mental health.
- **Youssef**, 25, originally from Syria, lives and studies in Lille.

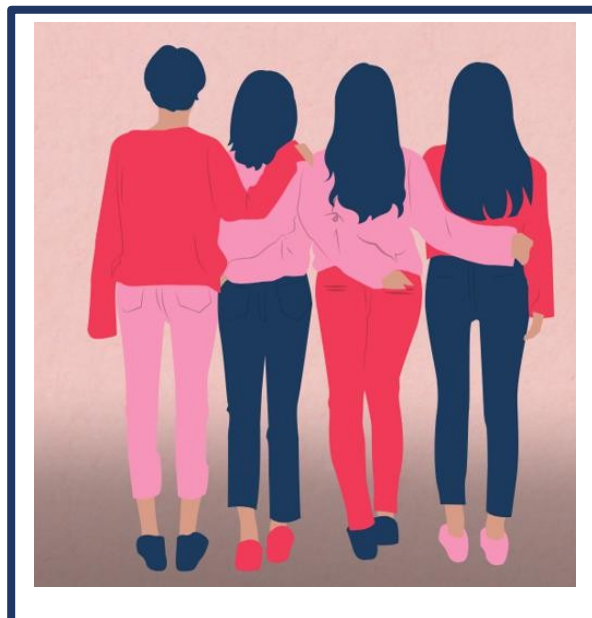
4.45pm - 5.30pm

Summary and outlook, the future of the Erasmus+ RENT project by **Jacqueline BERGERON** and **Marin GHERMAN** in the global geopolitical context

5.30 p.m. to 6 p.m.

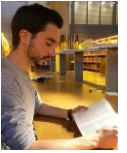
Artistic interlude by Marina PREPOTENSKA (Ukraine)

A convivial moment over a drink



List of contributors

Álvaro Alcázar is a doctoral student at Sorbonne University - Hispanic and Romance linguistics and translation. Theme of work
-Silence as opacity - the unspoken and the unspeakable in "refugee literature".



Abdelaziz Baraka Sakin is a Sudanese writer whose work deals with the civil war and dictatorship in Sudan. The author of numerous novels, he also writes books of children's literature. He runs writing workshops in schools and contributes to numerous literature projects.



Vasil Gafiuc, Director of the Bucovina Institute in Suceava (Romania). Expert in institutional development and founder of several NGOs in Romania, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova.



Sophie Haberbüsch-Sueur, Editorialist, Anthropologist, Head of the Maison des Réfugiés in Paris



Virayuth HA, a graduate of the Hospitality, Mediation and Migration degree programme at the Institut national des langues et civilisations orientales (Inalco), Virayuth HA is a Khmer interpreter-mediator. Since July 2024, he has been supporting the reception-orientation, linguistic and teaching-research departments at the Maison des Réfugiés in Paris.



Balkissou Hayatou, PhD in political science, associate researcher at the Thucydide Centre, analysis and research in international relations at the University of Paris Panthéon-Assas.



Lotfi Ouanezar, Chief Executive of Emmaüs Solidarité



Maya Ombasic, writer and philosopher of Bosnian origin, born in Mostar, Bosnia-Herzegovina Her work, rich in nuance and depth, deals with historical trauma, while questioning the fundamental principles of humanity



Pierre-Stanley Perono, lawyer, First Vice-President of the International Council for Intellectual Transmissions (CITI)-Member of the Council of Europe



Marina Prepotenska (Ukraine), Professor of philosophy in Ukraine. Musician and poet. Now living in exile in France, she runs a café philo for young people in exile.



Gina Puica (Romania) is a linguist with a doctorate in French literature. Stefan cel Mare University (Suceava). She is a member of the European Erasmus+ RENT project team in Romania.



Sergiu Raiu (Romania), sociologist, lecturer at the University of Suceava (Romania). He contributes to a number of research projects relating to issues of exile. He has directed several sociological studies on the situation of Ukrainian refugees.



Omar Youssef Souleimane, Syrian and French journalist, writer and poet. Author of numerous books, some of which are accounts of his exile.



Stéphane Tournier, alternating professional practice and further studies in the humanities Stéphane Tournier became involved in popular education and militant action in Toulouse in the 1990s. In 2007 he joined Emmaüs Solidarité to develop digital mediation programmes in shelters and day centres for people in exile.

