

# PRESS RELEASE

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## **Asociația Babilon Travel is starting the main activity of the project**

### **EMVISION**

#### **Empowering Young Visually Impaired to Stand-Up for Inclusive Policy Reforms**

project funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

**October 29 – November 5, 2017 – Cluj-Napoca, Romania**

Babilon Travel NGO is starting the main activity of the EMVISION project, a trans-national meeting of 32 young people, with (12) and without (20) visual impairment and five decision makers, from 5 European countries: FYROM, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal and Romania.

EMVISION is an Erasmus+ KA-3 project, financed by the European Union and developed by Asociația Babilon Travel.

EMVISION is raising the voices of young people concerned about the situation of young blind or visually impaired (YBVI) and empowers them to strive to improve inclusive youth policies, dedicated to YBVI through a structural dialogue between young people and decision makers in this field. EMVISION is encouraging the involvement of civil society in creating and implementing inclusive youth policies, promoting transnational co-operation, better knowledge of the European Union, equipping participants with soft skills such as working in an international environment, designing of actions with impact on decision makers and increasing acceptability of participants to other cultures. Participants will learn to support and promote inclusive policy reforms that boosts mobility of YBVI, responding to the "Youth on the Move" component of the "Europe 2020" strategy.

Partner organizations to the project, have already worked with public authorities responsible for creating and implementing policies addressing youth, inclusion and disabilities. In this regard, a number of institutions have been involved in the project, namely: Municipality of Cluj-Napoca, Department of Public Social Services and Medical Care Cluj-Napoca, Association of the Blind Poland.

During the main activity, a trans-national structural dialogue meeting in Cluj-Napoca, participants will develop, in a non-formal learning context, diplomatic and negotiation skills and it will equip them with knowledge necessary for proper participation in the democratic life of the community on local and international level.

The trans-national meeting will end with proposals to be taken in account in future decisions and regulations of the local council and municipality, creating the necessary framework for increasing mobility of YBVI from Cluj-Napoca, the premise of better social inclusion, labor market insertion and stimulation of entrepreneurial initiatives. This list will be submitted to the City Council of Cluj-Napoca.

Another result of the trans-national structural dialogue meeting will be a code of good practices regarding this kind of trans-national meetings.

Project partners: Municipality of Cluj-Napoca; Special High School for Visually Impaired, Cluj-Napoca; Direcția de Asistență Socială și Medicală, Cluj-Napoca; Youth of Europe Poland; Polski Związek Niewidomych Poland; Autonomia e Descoberta Portugal; CYA KRIK FYROM; Unique Projects Lithuania.

The official opening of the meeting will be on Monday, October 30, 2017, 10:00 AM, at Hotel Onix.

More information on our website [babeltravel.ro](http://babeltravel.ro) or please contact us at 0722634027, e-mail [office@babeltravel.net](mailto:office@babeltravel.net).