# report

#### XXIII MEETING OF THE SPANISH NETWORK

Barcelona, 19th and 20th March 2024





Culture, Gender And Civil Society Department **Gemma Aubarell** 

Coordination and Editing
Carina Soriano
With the collaboration of Carlos Fernández and Carlos Salvador

Layout and design **Núria Esparza** 

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ReFAL, in alliance with other national networks, will promote culture as a priority and central axis in the strategic lines of the Anna Lindh Foundation for the next stage. Strategic lines of the Anna Lindh Foundation for the next stage. A useful and applied vision of culture is advocated, non-essentialist, with the aim of promoting positive, transcultural and transgenerational values.

## report

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#### Tuesday, 19 March 2024

Place: IEMed, C. Girona, 20

#### 11.00h -11.30h Accreditation of participants

#### 11.30h -11.45h Welcome address

**Sergio Carranza**, Advisor on Mediterranean Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation **Senén Florensa**, Executive President, IEMed

### 11.45h - 12.30h ReFAL in the framework of the current Anna Lindh Foundation programme Lindh Foundation

Presentation of the Anna Lindh Foundation's programme by **Josep Ferré**, Executive Director, Anna Lindh Foundation; Presentation of the main activities carried out at ReFAL in the current stage by **Carina Soriano**, by the ReFAL 's secretariat and **Javier Poleo**, head of communications at INCIDE and member of the ReFAL executive committee

Facilitation by Senén Florensa, Executive President, IEMed

Open questions and answers

#### 12.30h - 14.00h Proposals and future lines of action of ReFAL

Interventions to present the results of the ReFAL and CrossNet focus groups in Tangiers.

New Vulnerabilities. **Salima Abdessamie**, Associacio Azahara; Universality from Multiple Identities. **Lucía García del Moral**, Researcher, Euro-Arab Foundation for Higher Studies. Citizenship and Participation. **Kilian Wirthwein**, International Policy Consultant and Associate and Associate Professor at the Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, INCIDE.

Tangiers Declaration - Promoting culture in international relations in the Mediterranean: building free, inclusive and creative societies. Lourdes Mirón, president Jovesolides

Facilitation by Gemma Aubarell, Director of the Culture, Gender and Civil Society Area of IEMed.

Open session for the participants

14.00h - 15.00h Break (adjoining room of the IEMed)

> Travel to attend the Intercultural Marathon 15.00h

> > Place: Faculty of Communication and International Relations Blanquerna-URL, Plaça de Joan Coromines, Barcelona

**Activity 'Explore-Celebrate-Connect'** 16.00h - 19.00h

> Intercultural Marathon and connection with the different Intercultural projects of the Network. Presentation of Network projects

Dinner offered by the ReFAL 20.30h Palau de la Música

C. Palau de la Música, 4-6

#### Wednesday, 20 March 2024

Place: Fundació Bofill, Girona 34, indoors

09.00h Welcome and presentation of the conference methodology

Executive Committee and ReFAL secretariat

Networking: 'Communicating with impact' by Vision Comunicación. 09.30h - 11.00h

www.euromed-cg.com

11.00h - 11.30h Coffee Break

Presentation and sharing. ReFAL awareness-raising campaign 11.30h - 12.30h

proposal for the next stage.

Led by Lola Fernández, Director of Communication and Institutional Relations of the Euro-Arab Foundation and member of the ReFAL

Executive Committee.

12.30h - 13.30h Reflecting with the young people of our Network

> Presentation of the magazine QM 35 The innovative social skills of young people in the European and Mediterranean region, by Maria-Angels Roque, the magazine's director.





Dialogue Youth, Diversity and Artificial Intelligence: The Technology of Values

Amal Khadiri, Association of Human Rights Educators (AHEAD)

**Hajar Al Hawari,** Barcelona School of Management (BSF-UPF) and Fundació Eurecat

**Fiorella Tazza,** Project and Research Coordinator on Digital Communication and Creative Industries, Institute of Cultural Affairs, Spain (IACE)

Dialogue moderated by **Mònica Nadal Anmella**, Research Director of the Bofill Foundation

13.30h - 14.30h **Pause** 

14.30h - 16.00h Marketplace of ideas and projects

Chaired by **Javier Poleo** and **Magdalena Tortella**, members of the ReFAL Executive Committee.

ReFAL Executive Committee and Gemma Aubarell, IEMed

#### **GENERAL CONCLUSIONS**

The complex political situation in the Mediterranean region, with critical situations like the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza, is a clear example of the urgent need for institutions like the Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF) that **advocate for dialogue and understanding among societies and cultures.** 

During the annual meeting, the importance of joint action by civil society and entities within the Spanish Network of the ALF (ReFAL) in the face of this challenging context was emphasized. Working in networks entails pooling efforts and engaging in dialogue means seeking shared solutions. Despite differing sensitivities, a unified voice emerged at the annual meeting. Participants reaffirmed their commitment to dialogue as a cornerstone for peacebuilding. They strongly condemned hate speech and advocated for diverse narratives that foster understanding and mutual respect. They firmly supported ceasefires and advocated for peace as a fundamental objective in all Mediterranean regions. They called for compliance with International Humanitarian Law and ensuring the safety of populations and humanitarian personnel operating in conflict zones, as well as protecting children to ensure their well-being and development, and defending freedom of information as a fundamental pillar of democracy. Lastly, they called for opening spaces for dialogue and debate to promote the exchange of ideas and the development of peaceful and sustainable solutions in the Mediterranean region. Thus, the impact that the voices of a committed civil society network like ReFAL can have on achieving a space for dialogue and peace was evident.

Another highlight of the annual meeting was the commitment to a renewed vision of international cultural relations in the Mediterranean, centered on values of reciprocity, dialogue, and collaboration. The Inter-network Action of the Anna Lindh Foundation, held in Tangier (Morocco) from March 6th to 8th, 2024, focused on "Cultural Diplomacy: Mechanism for Intercultural Dialogue" and underscored the need to position culture at the center of Euro-Mediterranean relations. This activity in Tangier emphasized the necessity for

International Cultural Relations to be driven by values of reciprocity and mutuality, to develop strategies with a human focus, to promote interpersonal relationships over interests, with the aim of fostering a renewed spirit of dialogue, mutual understanding, listening, and learning.

ReFAL, in alliance with other national networks, will prioritize and centralize culture in the strategic lines of the Anna Lindh Foundation for the next phase. Advocacy is for a useful and applied vision of culture, non-essentialist, with the purpose of promoting positive, transcultural, and transgenerational values. Art and culture of exchange and openness to others are part of our own ongoing identification and should not entail a renunciation of our beliefs. There is an urgent need to provide a comprehensive action plan within the Euro-Mediterranean agenda that offers instruments, means, and resources to address the challenges hindering the activation of Euro-Mediterranean relations from a cultural perspective. Cultural relations are cross-cutting and involve various actors in Euro-Mediterranean relations: opinion makers, governmental bodies, practitioners of international cooperation, creators, and NGOs. This new spirit of dialogue requires a bottom-up approach that significantly emphasizes the participation of civil society and cultural creation organizations in shared ownership with local actors in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

ReFAL begins this new stage with the aim of creating reflection, promoting action, and influencing and weaving alliances with the rest of the Foundation's networks in order to provide cultural action and creativity with the means to position it as a central tool in the promotion of Euro-Mediterranean intercultural dialogue

During this edition, the results of the work that will inform the Action Plan for the next period have been presented, prioritizing the promotion of youth and marginalized communities' civic participation in decision-making processes for social change, and the design of innovative and effective initiatives to combat hate speech and strengthen communities against new vulnerabilities. Capitalizing on all the processes and reflections that have taken place in ReFAL over the past year, three policy papers will be produced, contextualizing and aligning the three identified priority themes in ReFAL with national public policies, action plans, and strategies. These documents will contribute to generating reflection and will serve as the basis and action plan for the





next stage. In this regard, the meeting addressed a communication training session where initial ideas for the dissemination and impact of the intercultural dialogue narrative we aim to sustain in this new period were outlined. The success of the Intercultural Marathon also represented a turning point in being able to convey the mission and provide the means for its transmission.

Finally, the reflections and debates among ReFAL members during the various spaces of the annual meeting, as well as the presentations of projects and ideas by its members, once again demonstrated the richness of ReFAL and empowered network members to continue working diligently on intercultural dialogue as the only tool for social transformation.

#### WELCOME REMARKS

**Senén Florensa,** Executive President of IEMed, proceeds to inaugurate the XXIII Annual Meeting of ReFAL, delivering a speech where he highlights the work of the Anna Lindh Foundation and all its members in fostering intercultural dialogue across the regions. He also mentions current political affairs such as the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, a clear example of the need for an institution like the Anna Lindh Foundation for dialogue and understanding. Finally, he expresses gratitude to all attendees, as well as to the collaborators who have made this event possible.



Josep Ferré, Senén Florensa, Sergio Carranza and Carina Soriano during the welcome to the attendees and the presentation of the conference.

**Sergio Carranza**, Advisory Member for Mediterranean Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union, and Cooperation, begins his speech by congratulating Josep Ferré, Executive Director of the Anna Lindh Foundation, and his

entire team for their excellent management over the past four years, and celebrates his re-election to extend his mandate once again. Secondly, he addresses the members of the Spanish Network, thanking them for their commitment and for driving projects that combat hate speech, which creates divisions in society. Undoubtedly, the daily work carried out by civil society makes the foundation function effectively. Finally, he mentions the sad reality experienced in the region and reiterates the Spanish government's commitment to the Mediterranean and the institutions that uphold it.

The complex political situation in the Mediterranean region, such as the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, is a clear example of the need for an institution such as the Anna Lindh Foundation, which is committed to dialogue and understanding between cultures

Josep Ferré, Executive Director of the Anna Lindh Foundation, reviews this year's foundation program. The year 2023 began with the reconfirmation and characterization of the networks with the aim of advancing knowledge management. During this last term cycle, the objective has been to define priorities and contextualize them. Work has also been done on dynamics such as good governance, transparency, and accountability, which will continue to be a priority in the upcoming cycle starting from April 1, 2024.

It is noted that the new term will have fewer own resources, so the programs have been reorganized. In this way, the "Cross network" program is resumed to support greater interaction between national networks. This program will be linked to the 2025 Forum, taking advantage of the 20 years of the Anna Lindh Foundation. The Mobility program is working excellently, and its calls will be maintained regularly. Following the "Cross network" idea, a capacity-building program called Hands-On has been promoted. The program has a Euro-Mediterranean focus, with a peer equality approach or collaboration between networks so that the capacities of each are maximized. There are other types of programs with the intention of enriching the networks. Such as the celebration of the Mediterranean Day on November 28, where collaboration between municipalities and civil society entities is sought. There is also another program aimed at joint work between the Academy and civil society, called "*Knowledge for Action.*"





In recent months, work has been underway on a new component of the foundation linked to public policies, focusing on civil society. The program has four lines of action: the first, involved in the application of youth in public policies; the second, on Artificial Intelligence and ethics in its use; a third, focused on coexistence called "Living together," linked to intercultural and interreligious dialogue; and a fourth line, linked to misinformation. Around these four themes, debates will be organized, which will require active participation from civil society.

Finally, a strategy has been introduced to attract and diversify additional funds, which has been successful this past year, with an additional collection of 5 million euros, destined for various inclusion programs.

### REFAL WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CURRENT PROGRAM THE ANNA LINDH FOUNDATION

"Celebrate - Connect - Explore" Activity

Carina Soriano, advisor of the Culture, Gender, and Civil Society Area of IEMed and responsible for the secretariat of the REFAL, explains the work carried out within the framework of the current contract. She recalls that in this Network Engagement Scheme 2 (NES 2) (April 2023-March 2024), we are given the opportunity to conduct a deep analysis of what the priorities are as a Network, reflect on what our specialty is, and develop an action plan that contributes to strengthening and growing the project and the mission of the Anna Lindh Foundation. To identify these three thematic priorities and with the aim of seeking a participatory methodology, it was proposed to organize three focus groups based on three major thematic axes. Terms of Reference (ToR) were drawn up where the methodology and structure of the focus groups were specified. Each of them was led by a member of the Executive Committee, thus sharing the governance of the Network. Each focus group had a specialist in the field who contextualized the topic and, based on two or three questions, established a dialogue with the participants that contributed to landing on the thematic priorities of the group.

Secondly, these thematic priorities of the Network had to be framed in relation to the national socio-political context. That is, to identify public policies, action plans, instruments, or local strategies that supported and aligned with each of the identified themes and gave coherence to the Network's action plan. In short, reflecting on how the foundation's work could impact civil society in terms of intercultural dialogue.

After this process, which involved the participation of 35% of REFAL members, the detected thematic priorities were:

• **Youth and democracy:** Promoting citizen participation, of young people and marginalized groups in decision-making processes for social change.

- **New narratives against polarization:** Innovative strategies, tools, and effective mechanisms to combat hate speech, thus promoting constructive and tolerant dialogue.
- Strengthening communities against new vulnerabilities: The notion of active communities implies the ability to face, adapt, and recover from emerging challenges, highlighting the importance of collaborative and sustainable strategies. Managing vulnerability, on the other hand, focuses on identifying and mitigating factors that predispose communities to risks and threats, especially new vulnerabilities such as the digital divide, and challenges related to mental health. Community action and effective vulnerability management are imperative today.

Once these priorities were defined, a call for proposals was launched to finance four intercultural projects of the REFAL that would give visibility to this entire reflection process and involve the maximum number of Network members (activity "Celebrate"). The simultaneous implementation of the four funded activities and the online connection of these intercultural projects to all Network members (activity "Connect") increased the impact and visibility of the actions. The "Explore" activity allows us to analyze this entire process and reflect on a new action plan to follow in the upcoming stages ("Explore").

Finally, the results of this entire process were presented, analyzed, and discussed in different spaces during the two days of the REFAL Annual Meeting 2024 in Barcelona and marked the REFAL action plan for the next stage.

#### Proposals and future lines of action of the REFAL

**Gemma Aubarell,** Director of the Culture, Gender, and Civil Society Area of IEMed, initiated the session on the proposals and future lines of action of the REFAL. The interventions served to present the results of the REFAL focus groups and the CrossNetwork in Tangier.

**Salima Abdessamie,** Technical Coordinator of the Azahara Association, presented the results of the analysis of the focus group on New Vulnerabilities led by the Azahara Association. New vulnerabilities are identified as new deficiencies within civil society, from which two axes were detected: firstly, individualism versus community in a digital







Gemma Aubarell, Salima Abdessamie, Kilian Wirthwein, Lucía García and Lourdes Mirón on ReFAL's proposals and future lines of action

environment; and secondly, diversity management in the face of political change. In the political context, an attempt has been made to answer the question "How do we close the positive potential gap of technology and the current perception that its impact is negative?" Regarding proposals to improve the REFAL, emphasis was placed on harnessing the strengths of the foundation and seeking digital references to achieve greater impact on society. Regarding the second axis, it has been concluded that this new wave of far-right in the European framework focuses on a specific sector of society; and that public policies are subject to changes in government, which generates situations of institutional racism that are still far from disappearing.

Lucía García del Moral, a researcher at the Euro-Arab Foundation for Higher Studies, presented the results of the research from the focus group: Universality from Multiple Identities led by this entity. Three fundamental axes were identified: firstly, cultural exchanges in the Mediterranean area; secondly, relational dynamics in societies with multiple identities; and thirdly, polarization and hate speech. For the first axis, it is argued that culture should be a tool for facilitating dialogue, so the motivation is to use culture as a space for the representation of all identities. For the second axis, it was discussed how to promote active inclusion to confront everyday racism, and the role that the REFAL would play as an agent of exchange or representation of different communities. Finally, ways to address hate narratives and polarization from public policies were sought.

**Kilian Wirthwein,** an international policy consultant and associate professor at the Carlos II University of Madrid and collaborator of INCIDE, presented the results of the analysis of the Citizenship and Participation focus group. After conducting research consulting young people from different European countries about whether we are experiencing a decline in democracy, the responses were pessimistic, but not due to a loss of democratic values, which young people do maintain, but rather driven by a lack of trust in the system. It has also been concluded that there is no regression in interest in politics, but rather there are a series of obstacles that make it difficult for them to participate in it. These obstacles have been identified, with the lack of economic independence on one hand, and on the other hand, the environment of political polarization, which, combined, result in vulnerability due to fear of being socially judged for their political ideology.

**Lourdes Mirón**, president of Jovesolides, spoke to attendees about the Inter-network Action of the Anna Lindh Foundation, which took place in Morocco from March 6 to 8, 2024, focused on "Cultural Diplomacy: Mechanism for Intercultural Dialogue." The agenda included debates on intercultural dialogue in the current Euro-Mediterranean context and panel discussions on youth participation, governance, cultural cooperation, intercultural dialogue, and networking in the Mediterranean region.



Lourdes Mirón, president of Jovesolides, during her speech explaining the explaining the Tangiers Declaration

This initiative, driven by the Moroccan ALF network in collaboration with the national networks of Belgium, Ireland, Spain, and Tunisia, had the active participation of the coordinators and members of these national networks, as well as the co-coordinator of the French network and the director of the Anna Lindh Foundation.

This meeting concluded with the adoption of the <u>Tangier Declaration</u>, an invitation to other institutions to join this demand that positions Culture at the center of Euro-Mediterranean relations and advocates for a renewed vision of international cultural relations in the Mediterranean. Positioning the power of culture within the framework of the Anna Lindh Foundation as a transformative agent of society, and as a great driver for reconciliation with our past. The current context urges us to go beyond understanding cultural diplomacy as a mere tool of soft power and imbue it with a more creative and inclusive approach, focused on





a renewed spirit of mutual dialogue, understanding and learning, joint capacity development, and Mediterranean solidarity.

#### ACTIVITY 'CONNECT'. INTERCULTURAL MARATHON



Gemma Aubarell, Alba Sabaté and Sergio Carranza on the set of the Observatorio Blanquerna

Alba Sabaté, Deputy Director of the Blanquerna Observatory of Communication, gave some welcoming remarks at the "Connect" Activity along with Gemma Aubarell and Sergio Carranza, Advisory Vocal for Mediterranean Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union, and Cooperation. This intercultural marathon has served as a space to discuss the meaning of intercultural dialogue in the context of the current Mediterranean. The aim was also to present the projects funded by the Network that transform society through culture, art, education, and social innovation. In this way, live connections were made with the four Network activities simultaneously at different locations in Spain.

Dialogue: What does intercultural dialogue mean in the context of the current Mediterranean?

**Pilar Sampietro,** a radio journalist specializing in ecology and culture, introduced the dialogue table around the question "What does intercultural dialogue mean in the context of the current Mediterranean?" In this conversation, **Josep Ferré,** director of the Anna Lindh Foundation; **Roger Negredo,** from the Blanquerna Observatory; **Soraya Ares,** from the Bayt al-Thaqafa Foundation; and **Razan Ismail,** from the Kudwa Association, were present. Several topics were discussed in the expert roundtable, the first of which was religion and its role in conflict resolution. Reflection was made on the sense of belonging to the Mediterranean, seeking common heritage in the area as a means of unity and closeness among Mediterranean peoples. Another topic was the celebration of Ramadan and how this year it coincides with another religious celebration, Easter. Finally, there was reflection on terminology, whether the term "migrant people" is correct, and what tools this sector of society has to continue with dignity once established after their transition.



Roger Negredo, Josep Ferré, Pilar Sampietro, Razan Ismail and Soraya Ares in the dialogue: What does intercultural dialogue mean in the context of today's Mediterranean?





#### Exploring Our Network

Lola Fernández, Director of Communication and Institutional Relations at the Euro-Arab Foundation, moderated this space dedicated to the presentation of projects by the Spanish Network that transform society through culture, art, education, and social innovation. In this task, she was accompanied by: Anais Esmeralda, from Ojalá projects; Txell Bragulat, from Sodepau; and Fatima Bourhim, from the Association Sobre los Márgenes. First, Txell Bragulat explained Sodepau's task of importing Arab cinema to the Western world, as there is a clear disproportion between the Euro-American cinema we consume and that of the rest of the world. Fatima Bourhim explained how the Association Sobre los Márgenes works with the children of migrants to create safe spaces where they feel represented and in the construction of opportunities to break down structural barriers to achieve their future goals. Finally, Anais Esmeralda presented her project "Rethinking Reception" developed by Ojalá projects, which works with young people under a child protection system to accompany them in the academic process and provide them with the opportunity to pursue higher education.



Behind-the-scenes perspective on the set of the Blanquerna Observatory

#### Connecting with the "Celebrate" Projects of the ReFAL

**Magdalena Tortella,** in charge of Awareness and Communication at Fons Mallorquí, moderated the connection with the "Celebrate" projects, where live connections were made with four activities of the Network simultaneously in different locations in Spain.

- Firstly, connections were made with Ruta Mediterránea and the Tres Culturas Foundation. They presented "Youth Voices: Podcasting for Participatory Democracy," a project aimed at empowering youth and marginalized groups to be agents of change in their communities. The project involved workshops where young people could become producers of short audio formats, learn how to create them, and upload them online, thus becoming potential content creators and influencing their own generation.
- Secondly, a connection was made with Strait Up, where they showcased their dialogue project between young people from Spain and Morocco and the art exhibition at "Casa Flotante," located in Tarifa. The exhibition featured a compilation of photographs depicting the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and its impact on women.
- Thirdly, connections were made with Irenia Jocs de Pau and Artixoc, who produced a video based on street interviews conducted by racialized youth. During the connection, there was an opportunity to speak with these young people in a roundtable discussion, allowing them to share their personal experiences.
- Finally, connections were made with Nexes Interculturals and Mescladis, who presented their project "Migrantfood," focusing on gastronomy and interculturality to promote dialogue, tolerance, and social awareness. They created a video documenting this gastronomic journey, featuring interviews with young people who were formerly under state protection and are now active workers.

#### Testimonials from the Network

**Javier Poleo**, President of INCIDE, moderated the session "Network Testimonials," where beneficiaries of the ReFAL and the FAL shared their experiences in the "ALFinMOTION" program, which develops projects for various organizations.





**Lourdes Mirón,** President of Jovesolides, spoke about the Congress against Islamophobia held in the Valencian Community, driven by the rise of racism against the Muslim community nationally. In search of an expert in the field, they contacted Fatima Bourhim from the Association Sobre los Márgenes through the ReFAL network for cooperation between organizations.

This initiative led to a new project, "It Matters," a collaboration between Jovesolides and the Association Sobre los Márgenes, focusing on issues such as discrimination due to Islamophobia in schools. Fatima highlighted the network's ability to connect organizations, enabling the organization of joint projects and the transition to new initiatives that consequently emerge.

Antonio Chaves, from the Tres Culturas Foundation, presented the Hands-On project, included within the FAL Mobility Program. The project aims to showcase the diversity of art in the field of fashion in Morocco by supporting the travel to Seville of one of the best students from the Embroidery School of Salé, founded by the prestigious fashion designer Fadila El Gadi. Over two months, the Tres Culturas Foundation and the Embroidery School of Salé, with the voluntary collaboration of the Women's Association based in Espartinas Entre Mantones y Seda, will conduct embroidery workshops, and the results will be exhibited and disseminated appropriately.

<u>View the "Intercultural Marathon of the Spanish Network of the Anna Lindh</u> Foundation" here.



Participants of the Intercultural Marathon held on the set of the Blanquerna Observatory

#### WEAVING NETWORK: "COMMUNICATING WITH IMPACT"

This session was conducted by **Ramon Vila:** a communication expert, journalist, and audiovisual content producer/director; and **David Hidalgo:** a filmmaker, trainer, and specialist in video marketing. Both are members of Euromed Consulting Group and Vision Communication, with Ramon being the founder and director of both companies.

The session consisted of two parts, with the first part focusing on teaching attendees how to achieve impactful communication. They explained its motives and rewards, as well as the central axes of any good communication plan. Every campaign has its challenges that must be faced for it to be successful, as well as a series of aspects that can be worked on. To achieve impactful communication, the campaign being developed must be able to address the 6Ws: What, Who, Where, Why, How, and When.

Next, a couple of examples of successful campaigns were presented:

- Don't Choose Extinction UNDP
   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3DOcQRI9ASc
- La beauté du monde Médicins du Monde https://vimeo.com/253794526

Podcasts have become a widely used method due to their extensive reach among users. Key points for ensuring a quality podcast were discussed, as well as the benefits of this communication format.

The second part of the session involved active participation from attendees in an intercultural workshop. Two groups were formed: the first group was tasked with developing an awareness campaign, while the second group worked on a podcast project. Both projects were based on the three thematic priorities identified within the ReFAL.

The creators of the awareness campaign "Voices United. Listen to what unites us," focused on the theme of "New Narratives vs. Polarization," which aimed to include the podcast project from the second group, along with other dissemination formats such



ReFAL participants in the Podcast creation working group "Communicating with Impact"





as TikTok or Instagram. The developers of the podcast project focused on the premise of "Strengthening new vulnerabilities," focusing on the topic of migrant youth and the digital divide. Both projects would complement each other, with the podcast being a vital dissemination tool for the communication campaign. Contents 'Communicating with Impact

#### REFLECTING WITH THE YOUTH IN OUR NETWORK

Dialogue: Youth, Diversity, and Artificial Intelligence: The Technology of Values

On the second day of the ReFAL's annual meeting, the dialogue "Youth, Diversity, and Al: The Technology of Values" took place, engaging several members of the network, leveraging the presentation of the "Quaderns de la Mediterrània" 35 magazine.

Present in this discussion were **Maria-Àngels Roque**, the magazine's director; **Amal Khadiri**, from the Association of Educators in Human Rights (AHEAD); **Hajar Al Hawari**, from the Eurecat Foundation; **Fiorella Tazza**, coordinator of projects and research on digital communication and creative industries at the Institute of Cultural Affairs, Spain (IACE); and the dialogue's moderator, **Mònica Nadal Anmella**, from the Bofill Foundation.



Fiorella Tazza, Amal Khadiri, Maria-Àngels Roque, Hajar Al Hawari and Mònica Nadal in the dialogue on diversity and Artificial Intelligence.

To start, **Maria-Àngels Roque** introduced the audience to the content of the new magazine issue. She announced three main themes: Creativity, Values, and Selfesteem; Social Entrepreneurship, Environment, and New Technologies; and Multilevel Governance. The magazine comprises 20 articles and two interviews: one with Abir Butmeh, a Palestinian environmental activist, and another with Sarah Francis, a Lebanese filmmaker.

The moderator, **Mònica Nadal**, then discussed the importance of new technologies in the process of building a fairer and more equitable future. This was followed by **Amal Khadiri**, presenting her article: "It's Easier to Disintegrate an Atom than a Prejudice," which unveils society's experiences from the perspective of a migrant. For Amal, education is the most critical tool against inequalities and injustices in society, and it is in our inherent human values where the true wealth of our society lies. Her article aims to shed light on institutional racism, a topic that may not receive much visibility but still exists.

Hajar Al Hawari, author of the article "The Technology of Values," highlighted the concept of soft power, or how technologies influence our sense of community and alter our principles. Her inspiration for this research topic was the perceived lack of values in the technology community, with Artificial Intelligence and its surrounding ecosystem being prime examples. She argued that while society has developed a negative view of the ethics behind technological advancements and theorizes about their potentially catastrophic consequences, the collective fear of a future entirely dependent on machines may not be entirely accurate. She believes that marginalized segments of society, such as disabled individuals, may play an active role in population productivity as we adapt to new technological functionalities.

Finally, **Fiorella Tazza**, currently working on a study titled DIART-Lab focusing on AI, virtual reality, education, and art, emphasized the importance of art in distinguishing humans from machines. She believes that art, inherently possessed by humans, is not being adequately developed in school classrooms and aims to unite the concepts of AI, education, and art in her project.





#### IDEAS AND PROJECTS MARKET

This was a space, facilitated by **Javier Poleo** and **Magdalena Tortella,** members of the Executive Committee of the ReFAL, where members of network associations showcased their ideas and projects to the rest of the attendees.



ReFAL members at the Marketplace of Ideas session

#### **IDEAS AND PROJECTS MARKET**

Entity	Name of the project	On-site presentation	Objective
Asociación Kudwa	Kudwa Academy	Yes	Training programme specially designed for refugees, asylum seekers, stateless persons and other members of the community. In this unique programme, you will discover an enriching space where you will learn practical participation and leadership skills. Created and presented by members of the migrant community, the programme promises to be interactive, fun and transformative, aiming to call for action.  Kudwa Academy
Asociación Kudwa	Significant Participation	Yes	Specific training project for NGOs and municipalities on the meaningful participation of migrants and refugees in decision-making. Through collaboration with other entities, it seeks to promote a sense of belonging through participation in decision-making and policy co-creation.
Fundació Catalunya Voluntària	ECORASMUS - Guide to organise ecological activities	Yes	A 3-year training and awareness-raising project ending in June 2024, for which the training manual 'Green your Youth Project!' is now available. The manual includes information and tools for ReFAL member organisations to organise youth or educational activities that are as environmentally friendly as possible. The manual analyses aspects of communication, suppliers, materials, meals, choice of location, format and type of activities, etc. The Catalan and Spanish versions of the manual are now available. The aim is to share the desire to collaborate with ReFAL organisations to carry out dissemination, training, awareness-raising and advocacy actions related to the manual/project.  ECORASMUS - Guide to organise ecological activities





Ojalá Projects

Yes

Project on design and creativity as tools for social transformation through the design of spaces, processes and experiences that put people at the centre, especially projects that cater to youth and early childhood. Its objective is to present its methodology of co-creation through participatory processes, focusing on the most recent experiences during the implementation of its projects, with the aim of instigating new synergies with related and complementary entities and projects in the network.

Ojalá Projects

**Artixoc** 

La Vestuariteca

Yes

A project that aims to be like a library of theatrical costumes. A physical and virtual space where you can find everything you need. The idea is to give a second life to the textiles that accumulate in the warehouses, but also to ally with other spaces that want to lend material or rent it. Theatre companies, when they don't have a specific wardrobe, often make an investment, either by manufacturing or renting it. All this means a drain on economic and energy resources, which can be reduced by joining forces to share costumes.

Presentacion La Vestuariteca

Asociación Córdoba en el Mundo

The Sages of Qurtuba

Yes

When the capital of al-Andalus gave light to the world, a moment to discover the keys to the validity and transcendence of an intangible heritage that is valuable for humanity despite the centuries in relation to diversity and interculturality even in times of conflict. A theme that also makes it possible to create intercultural itineraries.

The Wise Men of Qurtuba

Jarit -Associació Civil Feel the Maghreb, Sunnugal in Africa and Destination Mestizo Yes

These projects are educational materials created by Jarit to bring the realities of the Maghreb and West Africa closer to schools and society in general. Through Yes

dynamics and games that build bridges between cultures to bring them closer and enjoy them. The aim is to share the didactic material with other member entities of ReFAL to carry out the workshops in other cities or countries of the network; to weave collaboration networks to continue creating education for development programmes; to analyse the possibilities of financing to carry out the didactic workshops; and to share the materials with other entities of ReFAL.

#### Asociación Residui Teatro

TRADITION
TRANSMISSION
TRANSGRESSION,
international meeting
of women creators

Yes

An international meeting of women creators within the framework of the Magdalena Project network. The initiative, now in its 4th edition, aims to give visibility to the work of women in the contemporary performing arts and to those projects that, through artistic tools, generate a perspective of equal opportunities, respect and change of patterns that perpetuate sexist and violent behaviour. Currently, the meeting has been held in Spain in the town of Ayllón (Segovia).

#### **Basketbeat**

Yes

-They presented themselves as a social movement that uses a basketball in order to make music. Their raison d'être is the realisation of socio-educational workshops in schools, institutes, penitentiary centres, public facilities, etc. The content of their work consists of providing training for students and professionals on the social use of the arts.

#### A.J. INTER

EduGaming vs. Radicalisation Yes

A tool in the form of an interactive video game that has different modes and aims to tackle homophobic hate speech; there is also another level aimed at promoting youth participation in politics. In addition, they showcased 'Citizens Voices, United for Europe', a space, shared with Estonia and Romania, which allows young people to discuss past experiences of radicalisation and social marginalisation. **EduGaming vs. Radicalisation** 





Asociación Sobre los Márgenes	Mentoring	No	Initiative working with a small group of young people with vulnerabilities in the Cañada Real neighbourhood, Madrid. Collective and individual sessions are held, where young people are mentored so that they can achieve their dreams and accompany them on this path.  Sobre los márgenes
Strait Up	Mediterranean School of Dialogue	No	Pilot project based on the Calotte Academy's Arctic cross-border dialogue school in the Arctic border region of Finland, Norway and Russia. It is a travelling symposium that brings together early career researchers to present research relevant to local communities. Each presentation is followed by a process of dialogue with local participants. Its concept is to apply this model in the Strait of Gibraltar, and the aim is to foster cross-border and transdisciplinary dialogue.
Euro-Arab	Young Migrants Alone Next Generation – BCN	No	Socio-occupational guidance and empowerment project for young single migrants in Barcelona with the support of Barcelona City Council and Barcelona Provincial Council. The project consisted of developing workshops aimed at these young people in their language (Arabic, Urdu, etc.), and also recording video CVs to present their applications for jobs or internships.
ABARKA ONGD	We are more together – EGG	No	A project that seeks to promote the social and economic inclusion of migrant women, providing them with the tools and knowledge necessary to start and manage their own businesses. This will be achieved through a holistic approach that focuses not only on entrepreneurial aspects, but also on personal development and overcoming social barriers.
ABARKA ONGD	CAZE: Stimulating Creativity in the Digital Age	No	Strategic partnership aimed at promoting social integration and inclusion by empowering young people facing social exclusion; who can capitalise on their basic skills and develop activities leading to

improved practical skills through an innovative educational format. Through the project, they will develop tools to provide integrative support for crosscutting, entrepreneurial and business skills with an electronic platform to sell their handmade ethnic and traditional products. It aims to start a way to integrate young people at local/national and European level, aimed at increasing the value of cultural differences.

Asociación de Compañías Profesionales de Danza de Cataluña (ACPG)

Mediterranean -Body memory in motion No

A programme that proposes to experience new narratives against polarisation from one's own bodily memory within the Mediterranean multi-culturality. The proposal is in the format of a workshop or mobile seminar open to all ReFal entities interested in hosting it at their headquarters. It is a laboratory with a theoretical-practical apparatus, whose objective is the neutralisation of polarised ideologies based on a revision of identity and awareness of our multiculturality housed in our bodily memory, which we will analyse, experiment with and reflect on. Conceived as a powerful tool for personal growth and social cohesion.

Fundación Tres Culturas del Mediterráneo

Learning in family

No

This programme, which began in 2010, has been consolidated over the last 14 years thanks to the good reception by the Moroccan community. It is a joint methodological approach in which groups of parents and children share schedules and spaces close to each other, thus allowing family reconciliation and the attendance of families to the classes. It consists of a linguistic programme that promotes the learning, on the one hand, of Spanish for Moroccans living in Andalusia and, at the same time, the learning of classical Arabic for their children, either born in Andalusia or living in Andalusia since they were very young, so that they do not have to learn Spanish. The aim is to ensure that they do not lose the link with their parents' country of origin. The main objective is to provide the children with the necessary





knowledge of the classical Arabic language so that they maintain the culture and language of their country of origin, and a better integration of the parents in the host society.

Fundació Internacional Olof **Palme** 

No

Cultural and academic tourism project, which was initially implemented in the city of Barcelona, with the aim of offering alternative visits to the classic and overcrowded tourist visits, which barely offer a background of the city. The project includes a proposal of cultural and academic itineraries that allow visitors to get to know another perspective of Barcelona. Moreover, this is also a more sustainable tourism option, with itineraries outside the most crowded areas, helping to diversify tourist activity in the city. It would be interesting to be able to expand this project to other tourist cities in Spain, given the cultural wealth of our country which, unfortunately, remains in the background for many visitors who stick to the more touristy itineraries.

Jiwar y Ruta Mediterránea No

Podcast workshop to empower collectives through the development of their own words and the use of the podcast tool. The optimal workshop lasts a minimum of 4 hours, and can work with any group: high schools, schools, young people under guardianship, the elderly, prisoners, etc. The aim is to disseminate the workshop in different contexts through specific collaborations with other members of the network. It is necessary to find funding to be able to offer it free of charge to entities without economic capacity.

#### ROADMAP 2024-2025



Javier Poleo, Josep Ferré, Gemma Aubarell and Lourdes Mirón presenting the ReFAL action plan for the next phase during the conclusions of the Annual Meeting

Javier Poleo, representative of the Executive Committee of the ReFAL, highlighted the work done in the months leading up to the meeting to achieve excellent results. He thanked all the organizers for making it possible, as well as all the members of the ReFAL who traveled to Barcelona, and those who couldn't attend but still participated. **Gemma Aubarell,** Director of the Culture, Gender, and Civil Society Area at IEMed, proceeded to discuss the strategy that the Spanish Network of the Anna Lindh Foundation will follow during the upcoming year. Capitalizing on all the process and reflection that has taken place in the ReFAL over the past year, three policy papers will be produced to contextualize and align the three priority themes identified in the ReFAL with public policies, national action plans, and strategies. These documents will contribute to generating reflection and will be the basis and action plan to follow in the next stage.

The ReFAL will focus in the next stage on influencing and positioning the role of Culture as a vehicle for intercultural dialogue at the center of Euro-Mediterranean policies. To do this, it will create alliances with other national networks and important actors from both civil society and policy-making authorities. A new stage begins in which the ReFAL aims to create reflection, action, and influence, and to forge alliances with the rest of the national networks to redefine the role of culture, identifying it as a vital tool for promoting Euro-Mediterranean intercultural dialogue.

Furthermore, a strong motto and purpose will be promoted, aiming for greater visibility. To achieve this, the support of key institutions capable of collaboration will be required. Josep Ferré, Executive Director of the Anna Lindh Foundation, thanked all the organizers of the Annual Meeting of the ReFAL, and all its members who make the foundation's action possible, and its impact on civil society.

**Sergio Carranza**, Advisor for Mediterranean Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation also took the opportunity to thank all the organizers of these events, and the participants who have allowed the creation of such a useful space for knowledge and cooperation. He wanted to add that from the Government of Spain, the work of the Spanish Network of the FAL to influence society in the Mediterranean sphere is closely monitored and valued.







Javier Poleo, Josep Ferré, Gemma Aubarell and Lourdes Mirón presenting the ReFAL action plan for the next phase during the conclusions of the Annual Meeting



Girona, 20 · E- 08010 Barcelona · +34 93 244 98 50

www.redespanolafal.iemed.org · redespanolafal@iemed.org

f redespanolafal · ※ @redespanolafal · #ReFALMed · #Anna Lindh

www.annalindhfoundation.org