



## **Report of the Launch on the Pilot Course ‘MCAST Undergraduate Certificate in Restorative Practices’**

29 October 2020

### **Event Summary**

The online launch of the Pilot Course ‘MCAST Undergraduate Certificate in Restorative Practices’ was attended by 66 participants from both EU and non-EU countries.

Claudia Taylor East, CEO, SOS Malta, opened the launch by highlighting the reasons for this project – going beyond and bringing in an educational side to restorative practices – the course is the first for Europe, more responsibility in terms of what we create. What are we achieving – is to reach more inclusive and equitable strategies to create and maintain community climate and culture, in schools and workplaces. Fundamental hypothesis on RP – human beings are happier, more cooperative, and more likely to make more positive changes to their behavior when those in position of authority do things with them rather than to or for them - modernize workplaces thus resulting in more cooperative workplaces.

Annika Gollcher, Project Coordinator, SOS Malta gave an overview of the project, the several different outputs. She also drew on some insights from the TReP Regional Report which attempted at 1) outlining the historical footprints of Restorative Justice and its uses within the European Context. 2) It also offered some instances in which aspects of these practices are being implemented within the local context of the partner countries involved in the TReP Project. 3) It outlines the challenges faced in their implementation including ambiguity in terms of how to define and therefore measure such practices and 4) finally offers recommendations on moving forward.

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Claire Casey and Andy Battell, both representing the Childhood Development Initiative, gave an introduction into Restorative Practices and their uses within modern day contexts. Following, was a round of questions wherein questions were asked about the different between RJ and RP.

An outline of the Pilot Course, was presented by Louis Aquilina, Director International Office, MCAST, drawing on the course approach, the 5 units and the course details in relation to timing, commitment of hours etc. 4) Finally Daniela Kolarova, Director, Partners Bulgaria foundation, explained the approach being taken to Evaluation of the pilot course, emphasizing that we are in pilot stage and the cohort of participants will be reviewing each aspect of the course, including both content and the technical uses of the platform, all of which will be considered when finalising the course.

Following the launch all participants received a copy of the presentations and all the course information including a course application link.

## **Event Feedback**

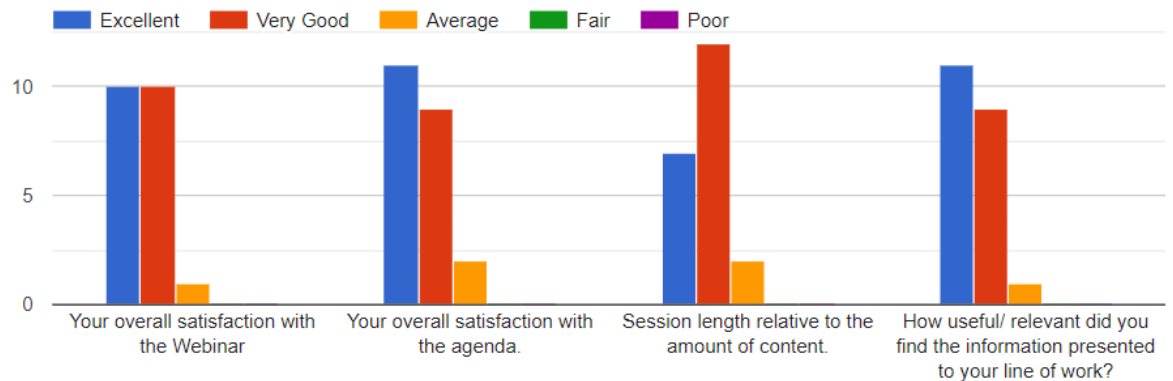
This document outlines the main results of the evaluation made following the ‘Launch of the Pilot Course, ‘MCAST Undergraduate Certificate in Restorative Practices’, organized by the lead Partner SOS Malta with contributions from all project partners – CDI, SGM, Brainshuttle, MCAST and PBF.

The original form used may be accessed via <https://forms.gle/FYNg5DMbfegGaG5m6>.

The feedback provided through these forms was collected by the Lead Project Partner. The questions and answers, including the final results, as provided by attendees may be found hereunder:

**1) Participants were asked to rate several aspects of the webinar as depicted in the diagram below:**

Please rate the following aspects of the webinar by ticking (✓) as appropriate \*



*The majority of participants found the event to be between excellent & very good.*

**2) What elements of the webinar did you like most? – Hereunder responses have been grouped and assimilated when alike other respondents.**

- All the presentations
- The practical examples
- Variety of people talking about RP in different situations
- It was clear that the presentations were well planned and conducted. The information was relevant.
- The interest from some many people across so many countries
- The open forum for questioning.
- Very interesting to see how the course has been developed and steps to date. It was also very useful to find out further information to be looking / listening to.
- The relevance the presenters provided, Information with regards to the course and the presentations.
- the background on the restorative practices approach and the presentation of the course content

- Course methodology description and course content seem very appealing
- The idea of a standard training
- The involvement of professionals from different countries
- Having a better understanding of Restorative Practice
- The information about the upcoming course
- Pace and content
- Course details and funding

### **3) What, if anything, did you dislike about the event?**

- Technology went against some presentations which was a shame but the work around sorted it.
- Bad internet quality at times
- I just found it hard to hear some of the presentations however the slides helped and I could read the slides.
- It was very good, I think some speakers were very hard on themselves about hiccups with technology but we are all used to these hiccups especially at the moment
- was not too happy about the moderation
- the internet connection was very weak ( surely not your fault)
- No. I guess for those presenting it was stressful, that there have been problems with the technical, but for me as a listener that wasn't a problem – things like that happen

*The majority of participants found the internet connection for some presenters to be a problem. This was rectified following the webinar through dissemination of the presentations used and complementary material.*

### **4) Comments**

- Good event
- For sure I will try to attend the Pilot Course. Congratulations for this initiative.
- I really enjoyed the webinar. Thanks very much.
- Thank you for all the information and the good webinar!

- It was really well done and presented very well. I was impressed with the real sense of community between all the organizations even though they were all located in different countries.
- Thank you so much for putting the webinar. As Youth Worker and in my role in support Student Support Teams, Restorative Practice is vital in forming meaningful relationships. Providing the necessary training is essential in insuring that an R.P ethos and culture is developed and maintained in areas of work and support.
- Well done!
- I wish I was accepted to follow the course
- Before the event I did not know the deadline for the application was the end of November and I had worried I had submitted it too late.
- Thank you all!
- Confusion over start time due to summertime ending that weekend.

*The majority of participants where very pleased with the event. Any remaining concerns and queries were clarified via email following the event.*

Following the event, all the relevant information around the Pilot Course, including presentations and course outline, were disseminated amongst the launch attendees.