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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



JYVÄSKYLÄN YLIOPISTO
UNIVERSITY OF JYVÄSKYLÄ

Presentation types: Presentation as part of a workshop (Religion and Asylum. New perspectives and Challenges)

"Finland. Our days." – Experiences of migrations and (im)mobilities of young adult war refugees from Ukraine

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The session is devoted to presenting and discussing a documentary film "Finland. Our days". The film is co-created with six young adults who fled from Ukraine after Russia's brutal invasion of the country and took part in a pilot action study "International migration and (im)mobilities: identities, agency and voice of refugee background young adults". The pilot is a part of a larger EU Horizon project NEW ABC "Networking the Educational World: Across Boundaries of Community-building". The NEW ABC (newabc.eu) realizes 9 pilot action projects in nine EU countries and aims at promoting integration of refugee children and youth. The project undertakes a participatory action research approach, and its main principles of the research are co-creation, co-caring and multimodality/art-based methodologies. The pilot International migration and (im)mobilities was first piloted in Italy and then re-piloted in Finland. The documentary film is the final artistic output of a six-weeks co-creation workshop realized in collaboration with Aurinkopaja (a part of youth art workshop actions in the city of Jyväskylä). Inspired by a photography and video editing session within the workshop six participants continued with gathering more footage for a documentary film. The film was created collaboratively with the participants, convener of the workshop Harith Raad Salih and researchers. The film is a montage based on the participants' individual videos. The documentary film is full of touching moments and positivity. The filmmakers wanted to tell that despite what has happened and what is going on in Ukraine, their lives continue. They are active, interested in trying and doing things, exploring Finland and building their lives here as any young adult would do. After a short introduction to the pilot action study and its activities, we will present the documentary film and invite all to discuss experiences of migrations and (im)mobilities in forced migration context.