

**Workshop:  
Educational Approaches to dealing  
with the past in school to oppose  
political exploitation of history**

Albert Hani

*forumZFD, Macedonia*

# Content

- Background info: What is CPS? What is forumZFD?
- How do we in forum ZFD Skopje define DwP?
- Projects
- Focus on School Mediation project: Difficulties in working on DwP? Necessity for Institutionalization of DwP activities?
- Recommendations

What is CPS?

What is forumZFD?

# How do we define DwP?

- **Process that focuses on memories** (individual and collective) that has influence for the future.
- **Connection of Dwp with Peace:**
  - Necessity to justify Stereotypes, prejudices, enemy images, hate, injustices leads to turmoil  
understanding of the past and future
- Collective forgiveness vs. collective fight for preserving exclusive ownership of the past
- Ethno-political elites use memory and history as a means for homogenization of ethnic communities

# Projects of *forum*ZFD Macedonia

- **Youth Leadership Program**
- **Mediation project**
- **Affirmative action**
- **Tetovo City of peace**
- **Run for Peace**
- **Forum discussions**
- **Youth clubs**

# Why School Mediation?

- **Segregation becomes a trend**
- **Youth is misused by political parties**
- **Teachers lack capacities**
- **Peace is unfortunately hard word**
- **alternative terminology to Peace that requires necessarily to open the issue of DwP**
- **not necessary related to interethnic or interreligious issues**
- **life long learning skill from personal benefit**
- **gives concrete results in reducing violence**

# Why Institutionalizing school Mediation?

- Institutionalization leads to sustainability
- It engages key stakeholders to start of thinking on concepts of Peace, reconciliation, DwP etc.
- It does not necessary mean hat you give up your independence
- we consider that DwP work in multitask level approach. A shift of interests from micro to macro level could influence the curricula

# What do the modules consisted of?

- Communication, stereotypes, Prejudices, Conflict management, Conflict analyses, Peacebuilding, Human rights, Reconciliation, dialogue, Dealing with the past, Nonviolence, etc.
- The modules have their flow in the direction of reconciliation



# Recommendations

- Education system must provide constant dialogue on the past
- It should be freed from influence of politics
- DwP as interdisciplinary topic should be a transversal topic in most of the subjects that belong to the social sciences such as: Sociology, Psychology, History, Philosophy, as well as art, music etc
- Parallel working agendas of the politicians on the past of their own nation, should stop