Abstract: This case study describes the efforts of the Kreisau-Initiative Berlin (KI) to connect the field of international youth work with intergenerational approaches. The KI has been active in the field of international youth exchange since 1989. In 2008 we started an internal process to broaden our exchange programmes to include people of all ages. This has meant that various challenges have had to be faced – e.g. methodical questions and financial issues or the question of how to motivate people to take part in a multigenerational international meeting. The study describes three projects of the KI, illustrating the general background of our intergenerational projects, discussing opportunities and challenges and highlighting some of the implications for practitioners.

A short introduction of the “project Krzyżowa”

The Kreisau-Initiative (KI) was set up by East and West Berliners in the summer of 1989, before the collapse of the Berlin Wall. Its aim was to develop the concept and sponsor financially the setting up and maintenance of an international youth meeting centre and memorial in what had been German Kreisau until 1945 and then became Polish Krzyżowa. As a non-governmental, nonprofit organization we organise and deliver international meetings for various target groups in close cooperation with the Krzyżowa Foundation for Mutual Understanding in Europe, bringing together young people and adults from Germany, Poland, Western and Eastern Europe, Turkey, Israel and Palestine. The aim of each exchange is to trigger the sustainable participation of young people and to provide them with the competences they need to become active citizens. Moral courage, social and political engagement, tolerance, understanding between nations and commitment to democracy and human rights, all of which form the basis for action in resisting the dictatorships of the twentieth century, are considered and explored. Preface Dialogue between people from different generations has had a very important influence on the development of the „Project Krzyżowa“ since 1989. Youngsters and Elders experience a productive intergenerational exchange on both history and the present. However, international exchange projects which include people of all ages are much less common. To address this the KI has since 2008 had the specific aim to bring people of all generations together in international exchange projects. By doing this we are dealing with an issue, which will become more and more important for Germany, Poland and other European Societies. Through participation in several pilot projects during recent years younger and older people have had the opportunity to gain international experience in Krzyżowa working together in multi-generational groups. The experience we have gained through these projects has helped us to understand the great potential of such dialogue between the young and old. Young people profit from the life experience of older people, who benefit from hearing the modern views and insights on different topics of the younger ones. It also became clear to us that a generation is no homogenous collective entity. This presents an additional challenge for these projects, in which we have to handle several aspects – e.g. culture, social origin and age. We believe that there is still a long way to go, before we can include intergenerational approaches permanently in international youth work. But the beginning which we have made is
The demographic situation in Germany, Poland and Europe demographic change and ageing societies present a huge challenge for all European societies. Average life expectancy increased by 8 years in the period since 1960. Experts foresee a further increase of five more years by 2050. In addition the „Baby-boomers“ from the 1960s will retire soon and this contributes towards a society which is aging rapidly. The balance between young and old will undergo an immense change. This will have an impact on social security systems. There will be proportionately less young people to carry the financial responsibility for a growing population of older people. In such a situation, dialogue between different generations becomes more and more important to maintain social cohesion. Looking into modern individual biographies it can be observed that due to increasing individual mobility and other other factors, intergenerational dialogue less often takes place in a ‘natural way’, for example in families which contain members of three or more generations. In this situation, it is very important to see demographic change not only as a threat but also as an opportunity. The knowledge, which can be passed between generations in an intergenerational dialogue, is essential to help solve some of the future problems of European societies. In Germany there are many local and national initiatives aimed at connecting people of different ages to participate in development of our future society. Examining a number of comments of the European Commission and the Council of Europe one can draw the conclusion, that the issue is increasingly being discussed as an Europe wide phenomenon at the policy level.1 What is still missing, is a consistent European view on intergenerative projects within civil society projects.

Five reasons for an international dialogue between generations

Against the background of these factors, one of the main aims of the KI is to bring together people of all ages to give them the possibility to exchange opinions and reduce prejudice based on different nationalities, social class and age. In doing this, we are trying to integrate two sectors, which seem to be rather alien to each other. But we are convinced that many positive effects can be reached by a cooperation between the „international youth work” and the „senior citizens work”

Firstly: international multigenerational meetings are an appropriate means to challenge and reduce prejudice and stereotypes between nations, which are passed down through the generations particularly in families. This mechanism can be critically discussed, when three generations come together to get to know people from other countries.

Secondly: the dialogue of generations can be handled in a very intense way because of the exceptional setting of non-formal learning, which exists in an international meeting. During a week of common learning and working, which is remote from daily life, people of all ages gain common experiences, which also help to dismantle the prejudices between the generations.

Thirdly: the participation of people of all ages in international meetings offers equal opportunities for everyone. Why should only youngsters enjoy the positive aspects of international meetings, such as language competencies, social competencies, intercultural learning or relations with people from other countries?

Fourthly: a reason for providing international meetings for people of all ages is to enable questions of sustainability that are fundamental in all European societies to be discussed. What we decide today has an influence on the world of tomorrow. In times of rapid change and international interconnectedness this simple truth becomes even more important.

Fifthly: the possibility to challenge and reduce a very common and widespread form of discrimination, that is to say „adultism”. Young people very often lack a lobby, which cares about their particular needs. They are not allowed to participate fully in social decisions, as they still have „so much to learn”. This very common view is described with the word „adultism”, which means discrimination against young people because of their age. Within international meetings for young and old, young people learn to communicate as equals with older people and to have their opinions equally valued. Experiencing the dialogue of generations – three international projects in Krzyżowa The project „Dwarfs meeting Giants” is dedicated to fathers and their children from Germany and Poland. The focus within this project is on familial relations, which are per se intergenerational. The aim is to strengthen the role of fathers in the education of their children by enabling them to spend a concentrated period with their children, meeting other fathers from the neighbouring country and exchanging personal views on educational questions. Within the project different methods are used to give fathers and children important suggestions and ideas to reflect on for their daily familial life.

With the help of outdoor education or puppet theatre mutual dependencies and hierarchies in families can be discussed and better understood. The project „Songs of generations” brings people from Germany and Poland, aged between 19 and 99 years old, together. They all have an interest in music, and are eager to discuss the meaning of music in their personal biographies and home societies. The intergenerational setting of participants also offers the possibility to think about intergenerational prejudices and ways for the generations to live together in future. This project revealed the importance of a „common theme” for intergenerational projects which is relevant to everybody – young or old. The dialogue of generations can easily be triggered, if there is a tangible issue to talk about and to consider together. The project „InterGenerationes – Connecting Generations across Europe” is aimed to open up the sector of international youth work to intergenerational learning and to enable an exchange between the two fields of international youth work and senior citizen work. An international conference is planned to build up this network, which is essential to offer international exchanges for people of all ages. Representatives from the international youth work, adult education and senior citizen work sectors from all over Europe will meet in Krzyżowa, listen to keynote speeches on the topic
and country reports. They will participate in discussions on methods for international multigenerational exchange and receive an introduction regarding the European Networks concerned with intergenerational dialogue. They will also examine the findings of a survey of EU-funding for intergenerational exchange, and attend presentations of good practice projects and workshops on different aspects of the issue. As a follow-up an Europe wide PR-campaign and a pilot project in the form of a German- Polish-French international meeting are planned. Within this project we are trying to internationalise intergenerational learning.

Chances and Challenges
– conclusions for intergenerational practice

In the following I would like to highlight some of my conclusions for practitioners who are interested in implementing intergenerational learning in international exchanges or vice versa.

Making the dialogue of generations explicit

The issue of intergenerational dialogue has become quite popular in the last years. Many organisations are discovering their intergenerational potential, and pursuing the argument, that within their regular work there has been always „something intergenerational“. In this context it has to be said clearly, that young and old people „side by side“ taking part in an international meeting or in a volunteer programme are not automatically engaged in an intergenerational dialogue. To reveal similarities and differences, conflicts and common topics is hard work, which needs much empathy from both side, time, a common space to learn and concrete methods for discussion and reflection, which must be adapted to intergenerational groups.

Building networks

When we present our projects or discuss the issue of intergenerational learning in international meetings with practitioners from the field of international youth work, we regularly encounter doubt concerning the benefit of those activities. Another important argument which is often raised is the „exclusive responsibility“ of the youth work sector for young people. To overcome those reservations networks have to be built and a lobby created which brings together people who are convinced that it is worthwhile to connect intergenerational learning and international exchange. This means that organisations from the international youth work sector will need to look for new alliances within the field of senior citizen work. This might be a local senior’s club or a national lobby group for the needs of older people. To overcome those reservations networks have to be built and a lobby created which brings together people who are convinced that it is worthwhile to connect intergenerational learning and international exchange. This means that organisations from the international youth work sector will need to look for new alliances within the field of senior citizen work. This might be a local senior’s club or a national lobby group for the needs of older people. This means that people must be ready to open their own organisation to other viewpoints, organisational cultures and ways of thinking. The European Year 2012 of „active aging and intergenerational solidarity“ will hopefully play a crucial role in this process.

Differentiated search for participants

When offering international exchange projects for people of all ages, we have made one interesting finding. Generally speaking it is more difficult to find younger people (aged below 50 and younger), taking part in such activity than seniors. This seems to be quite logical, as those people are in the process of starting a career, finding a family or pretty much involved in their work, which contributes to a rather high work load. Generally, seniors have a larger time budget at their disposal. Both groups are also reading applications from different view points, as younger people are much more used to international exchange than older ones. These factors have an important implication for searching participants. It might be the best to have two calls for application in order to reach both target groups. As every participant who attends our intergenerational projects is enthusiastic afterwards, telling us that we are doing the right thing, we are sure that the offer is interesting for young and old people likewise and that we just have to reach them.

The importance of a „common topic“

From our experiences we learned that every project which aims to foster intergenerational dialogue needs a topic which every participant (both young and old) is interested in. It should be connected to them and to their daily lives. Having said this, I would like to underline that doing a seminar „just for the sake of intergenerational dialogue“ will not work, as the expectations will be too high and the atmosphere might be easily spoiled. In my opinion it is a better way to encourage the dialogue of generations tangentially, that is to say first discuss, for example, music and its meaning to the participants and then consider the question as to what extent this differs between the generations and what this might mean for us.

Finding funds

For organisations which would like to work both intergenerationally and internationally it is difficult to get funding as there are only a few funds supporting international meetings for people of all ages. As these are mostly from the EU a degree of organisational capacity is required to manage such an international project for multigenerational groups, which creates difficulties for smaller organisations. For example the German-Polish Youth Office, which funds youth meetings can only give money for people up to 26. From this it follows that older participants would have to pay for themselves to be able to take part in an intergenerational meeting. We have to seek alternative funding to make sure that participation in an international dialogue of generations is not a question of financial well-being excluding the less well off. The declared aim of our pedagogical and organisational efforts is to address intergenerational issues in international exchange projects. Due to the reasons described above we are convinced that this is worthwhile. We hope that our case study inspires other organisations from the field of international youth work to „internationalize“ their projects or some organisations form the field of senior citizens work to „intergeneralize“ them and that our reflections and findings will help them be successful. For further questions, any acknowledgements, pedagogical discussions or new projects, please contact us.
The ‘Haus am Maiberg’ is a centre for citizenship education and social trainings of the diocese of Mainz. The aim of our non-formal education is to instruct participants on civic and social subjects and to strengthen social and civic skills. Participants of youth meetings and adult education trainings are given an opportunity to shape and express their own opinion and are motivated and qualified to take an active part in political life. Haus am Maiberg is part of different national and international networks in the field of citizenship education. It takes part in approx. 70 educational projects per year. At the centre offers rooms, seminar halls and dining service.

Which experiences in intergenerational work you exactly have?

Haus am Maiberg has been working in the field of intergenerational projects for a couple of years. The staff of the organisation have already implemented different projects including international exchanges. The main goal of these projects is to open up a space for dialogue and a diversity of perspectives. All three trainers involved in this project are experienced in international youth work including youth meetings and expert exchanges. The project in July 2013, however, will be the first intergenerational international encounter for all three.

What kind of intergenerational projects would you like to implement?

Together with the partners in Italy and Poland we decided to work out a project concerning the consciousness of memory. Participants will reflect and discuss what historical events have influenced and still are influencing their life. Apart from examples of historic events participants will discuss collective memory and share personal remembering. The project will be process-oriented and therefore will react to the dynamics of the group and as well as to the topics which should arise.

What you would need for doing it (theory, methods, networks, fundraising...etc.)?

Network to find participants; theoretical background in intergenerational learning and group building; having a professional attitude we are always open for new ideas for methods.

Projektebüro Dialog der Generationen: www.generationendialog.de

National Service Centre for Intergenerational Practice in Germany was founded with the aim to promote the dialogue across generations. Since 1997 the Centre has been receiving funding from the Federal Ministry of Family, Seniors, Women and Youth.

Core activities:
• Support to set up sustainable structures for intergenerational work
• Stimulation of municipal, regional, national, European and international networking
• Organisation of conferences, continuous education and trainings
• Website (project database, calendar of events and competitions etc.), newsletters
• Raising public awareness of intergenerational work by writing articles, contributing to radio features
• Awarding the Dialogue across Generations Prize for good practices in the field

Which experiences in intergenerational work you exactly have?

As a National Service Centre in Germany since 1997 we have collected and distributed information (newsletter, project database, website) and facilitated exchange of intergenerational practices (conferences, awards) in the following fields of activity:
1. Mutual learning (reminiscence, remembrance, peace work, promoting literacy and reading skills, promoting skills in new media),
2. Mutual help and support (mentoring, befriending programmes),
3. Living together (co-housing, shared day-centres),
4. Experiencing together, opening up new collaborative spaces in fields of common interest (protection of environment, community development),
5. Playing, acting and performing (Media work, theatre, music, arts)

What kind of intergenerational projects would you like to implement?

We do not implement projects, our core activity is stimulation of exchange and networking (conferences, website), support in setting up sustainable structures for intergenerational work (consultancy), raising public awareness of intergenerational work (publications) and awarding the Dialogue across Generations Award for good practices.

Our interest in the Project InterGenerationes has to do with opening up youth organisations for intergenerational issues.

What you would need for doing it (theory, methods, networks, fundraising...etc.)?

Assessment of understanding and demand for intergenerational issues within the youth sector and networking.
Testing and further development of methods and organisational issues for international intergenerational encounters.
Rodinné centrum Pexeso: www.pexeso.org

Family centre Pexeso is a civic, non-profit organisation with the mission to support the local community in Zbraslav (southern Prague). We are trying to enable Zbraslav residents to create a functioning local civic society in their town. We would like the residents to live their life here, rather than in the inner city of Prague. Our target group are families. This includes (soon-to-be) parents, grandparents, and of course, children, teenagers and adults.

We run about 60 programmes/courses a week, 5 events a month (traditional, educational, get-togethers, seminars and discussions, weekend events). About 600 people visit our centre every week. Pexeso was established in 2006. We received the award “Family-friendly organisation” in 2007.

**Which experiences in intergenerational work you exactly have?**

- organising sport courses for children, youth, parents with children – junior athletes, athletes, sport games for children and their parents
- organising indoor climbing (Czech Mountaineering Federation) – climbing lessons for children and adults
- organising summer and winter camps for children and youth
- maintaining an after-school club for children

**What kind of intergenerational projects would you like to implement?**

- Interested in the intergenerational dialogue between parents (grandparents) and children
- Organizing courses, activities (especially sport activities) in which intergenerational cooperation is vital

**What you would need for doing it (theory, methods, networks, fundraising...etc.)?**

- Improving our lecturing skills

Comparing our experience with other lecturers who are interested in the topic

Association for Democratic Education FAR, Burgas: www.farburas.eu

FAR – Association for Youth Education and Media Pedagogy in Burgas was founded as a result of the first German-Bulgarian student magazine seminar in 1995. Its aim is to encourage people from different generations to get involved in political and social processes. FAR is the Bulgarian word for light house and symbolizes the city of Burgas and the work of the association. Since the end of 2001 FAR has broadened its seminar offer and works specifically on the development of adult education, especially advanced trainings for teachers.

From September 2003 to July 2005 FAR took part in the project „GILE – Intercultural learning in Europe for people of all ages”, coordinated by the Ministry of Political Science Thüringen, Germany. Project partners included organisations from Germany, Poland, Slovakia and Latvia. The project activities encompassed international seminars for people of all generations to promote life-long learning.

**Which experiences in intergenerational work you exactly have?**

In the period 2002-2004 we had a joint international project under Grundtvig (GILE-generationsübergreifendes interkulturelles Lernen in Europa) in which representatives of organisations from five countries (Germany, Bulgaria, Poland, Slovakia and Latvia) participated. The project provided trainings for multiplicators by the “Biography method”. Part of the project was to organise workshops in the countries, from which the representatives originated. The seminars were attended by mixed groups of people of different age groups who discussed their past and their future by the “biography method”. The aim was to convey knowledge to the young people.

**What kind of intergenerational projects would you like to implement?**

One of the priorities of the Association for Democratic Education “Far” is to reconsider our recent communist past. In this regard, we would like to continue this project with other countries, where this issue is still on the agenda.

**What you would need for doing it (theory, methods, networks, fundraising...etc.)?**

- What we need are innovative methods of intergenerational workshops, establishment of partnerships and exchange of experience.

Association Mackenzie, Burgas: mackenziebg.org/about-us/

Association Mackenzie is proud to be one of the few organisations in Burgas which works for giving adequate support to schools both for educational and non-educational problems they face.

Our responsibility are the people of Bulgaria. We put emphasis on youth work because it is the young people who are deprived of opportunities for development in the transition period, i.e. in the new economic reality in which physical survival is the society’s priority.
In our work we found out a great demand for exchange of information and further communication between generations, therefore we are looking for opportunities to help senior citizens from our country see that they are needed and their opinion and volunteer work matter. We see our responsibility to society in providing quality activities, stimulating the process of idea experimentation – we have organised volunteer work projects and camps as well as seminars on unemployment and active citizenship.

Which experiences in intergenerational work you exactly have?

We do not have any experience in the field of intergenerational work, but we believe it is of great importance for our country which, as a post-communist one, has a lack of communication with elderly people. The results of a survey carried out in 2012 by Eurobarometer show that Bulgarians are the most intolerant (45%) of senior citizens.

We are positive there should be more action in that field as for the time being it is next to nothing. Our senior citizens live with the feeling of being useless and regard themselves as a burden to the younger generation.

What kind of intergenerational projects would you like to implement?

We would like to have both national and international projects on intergenerational work because of the aforementioned reasons. International intergenerational exchange would be a great project to implement in Burgas, bearing in mind that it is a resort city on the Black Sea coast and could bring a lot of positive emotions to elderly people participating.

We would like to have national meetings / seminars - to travel to smaller areas of the region with a group of younger people and implement intergenerational meetings / seminars / with local senior citizens on specific topics – the topics to be set in advance after studying the ideas and wishes of the local elderly. That would be carried out with help of a chitalishte – an public institution present in every small settlement in Bulgaria.

What you would need for doing it (theory, methods, networks, fundraising...etc.)?

We will need methods and fundraising for the materials for the seminars and covering the travel expenses of the younger participants, as well as food for the day of the meetings.

We would also like to work out a logo for our project and have it printed on T-shirts that will give a sense of togetherness to the group despite the short periods we are together for.

We would also like to be able to have such seminars with senior citizens from senior citizen’s homes in the region of Burgas.

Slovenian catholic girl guides and boy scouts association, Ljubljana: http://skavti.si

Slovenian Catholic Girl Guides and Boy Scouts Association (ZSKSS) is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation established in 1990. We work in the field of non-institutional education of children and youth.

We have recently been a partner of a project in the field of Intergenerational Cooperation. The project began in 2009 and ended in 2012. Its vision was to develop a potential for creating intergenerational solidarity and to find joint interests and practices in different youth organisations in the field of intergenerational cooperation. One of the goals of the project was also to connect youth organisations in the field of intergenerational cooperation and to involve experts with good references. In 2011 we prepared visits of scout groups (aged from 17 to 25) in retirement homes in different towns around Slovenia. We are also trying to improve our meetings with the parents of our young scout members.

Which experiences in intergenerational work you exactly have?

Our organisation was a partner in a 3-year (2009-2012) project funded by the European Social Found. The name of the project was Intergenerational Cooperation in Youth Organisations. We worked together with 10 other NGOs from Slovenia, formed a “study-group” where we talked about the intergenerational situation in Slovenia, and stereotypes among old and young, about enhancing the role of the young generation etc. The group made two research trips in Slovenia concerning the situation and perception of the intergenerational cooperation in our country, published two books about theory and methods and shot a short film about the process of growing up of 8 different generations in Slovenia.

On the other hand - we can say that following the scout method (which is oriented intergenerationally at its core) in our work with youngsters and adults has given us 22 years of experience in this field.

What kind of intergenerational projects would you like to implement?

We would like to apply all the ‘intergenerational’ experiences and knowledge that we have gathered through our work and through experience of the others in our current scout projects and programmes. These insights have already proved useful as they change the perspective of planning camps, meetings and educational workshops.

What you would need for doing it (theory, methods, networks, fundraising...etc.)?

At the moment all we can think of in terms of needs is financial support for our programmes, as currently they are based on voluntary work. Gradual broadening of our theory and methods bank would also come in handy.
Peace School Monte Sole, Marzabotto: www.montesole.org

The Peace School Foundation of Monte Sole was established in 2002. Monte Sole is a triangle of hills, approximately 10 miles south of Bologna. The silence and the peacefulness of this apparently unspoilt place are the result of a terrible violence: 1944, the place was witnessed a bloodshed initiated by SS troops with the help of fascist units. In those days, about 770 people, mostly women and children, were killed.

The educational programme deals with and engages in four general subject areas that are interlinked with our pedagogic practice. The aim is for the participants to leave Monte Sole with the conviction that violence is not only a thing of the past, and to raise questions seemingly uncomfortable to the individual conscience.

We usually work with civil society groups that are mixed based on age and background criteria. For example, M.E.T.A, Memory, education, theatre, action is a complex and multi-layered project that aims to work on the memory of WWII and fascism in Italy keeping it active beyond the simple “duty of memory.” The Meta Camp had 15 participants of many diverse age groups, backgrounds, genders, geographical origins.

Pitchoune (Association loi 1901) http://pitchoune.eu/

Pitchoune is a family centre in Castera Lectourois, Southern France. The organisation has taken part in many international trainings and youth exchange programmes with partner countries such as England, Czech Republic, Germany, Netherlands, and Poland. One focus of our work is art education; Pitchoune organised “Imag’in”, a festival visit that took place from 1st to 5th March 2010 in Montréal.

Which experiences in intergenerational work you exactly have?

Our experience as an informal group:
Since 2004 we have been a partner of the following youth exchange and training projects within the YIA Programme:
• With Poland: Open up to Europe, May ’04 (seminar), Create the Art Rainbow, April ’05 (seminar), Break dance, Hip-hop is something you live, August ’08 (youth exchange), The role of Theatre in Non-formal Education, April ’09 (training);
• With Slovakia: Welfare, April ’06 (youth exchange), Ventilate, May ’09 (training);
• With the Czech Republic: Connection, May ’07 (youth exchange)
• With the Netherlands: Street wise, October ’07 (training)
• With Germany: Workshop of Europe, Jun ’09 (training)
• With United Kingdom: UK Revisited, October ’09 (training)
• With the French national agency: Grouping Marly le Roi, April ’09, Grouping Unieux, September ’09.

What kind of intergenerational projects would you like to implement?

For our organisation it is the beginning of involvement in intergenerational projects, therefore we could not form a precise vision. Being part of this project will offer us an opportunity to give our possible future involvement in this field a careful consideration.

What you would need for doing it (theory, methods, networks, fundraising....etc.)?

As beginners in this field, we would appreciate help in all areas listed above.

Kreisau-Initiative e.V. www.kreisau.de

The Kreisau-Initiative e.V. (KI) was founded by East and West Berliners in the summer of 1989 – before the collapse of the Berlin Wall. Its aim was to support ideologically and materially the set-up and maintenance of the International Youth Meeting Centre and memorial site in what until 1945 used to be German Kreisau and subsequently became Polish Krzyżowa.

As a non-governmental, non-profit organisation we draw people’s attention to Krzyżowa in cooperation with our partners. The Kreisau-Initiative has for many years been organising intergenerational encounters and international youth projects in close cooperation with the Krzyżowa Foundation for Mutual Understanding in Europe.

Which experiences in intergenerational work you exactly have?

Since 1989, Kreisau-Initiative has implemented all kinds of different projects which have Kreisau/Krzyżowa as a meeting and learning place as a common denominator. Since 2008, intergenerational projects have been a regular part of the yearly programme of KI. Once a year we organise one encounter for fathers and their children as well as one intergenerational project on music and arts.

What kind of intergenerational projects would you like to implement?

Because of the age of the association, intergenerational issues become more and more important to us, since a second and third generation of members and activists take part in our projects.

What you would need for doing it (theory, methods, networks, fundraising....etc.)?

We are interested in adapting our experiences with international encounters to intergenerational environments. A systematic development of ideas and methods is the main aim of the project cycle InterGenerationes 2013.
The FK is a politically independent NGO, which conducts youth projects at the Youth Meeting Centre in Krzyżowa/Kreisau and maintains the historical buildings. The services and programmes offered in Krzyżowa are facilitated by an international and multilingual team with long-standing experience in the field of intercultural youth work. The aim of FK is to support a peaceful and tolerant existence of nations, social groups and individuals in Europe. In order to do this, we bring together people from many nations so that they may talk and share their views of the world. Dialogue between people from different generations has had a very important influence on the development of our work since 1989.