

SPOTLIGHT

EMPOWERING AUTISTIC YOUTH THROUGH THEATRE

Spotlight

NEWSLETTER 1 | AUGUST 2026

PROJECT OVERVIEW



Welcome to the first Spotlight newsletter! This project is built on a simple but powerful belief: that improvisational theatre can help autistic and neurodivergent young people aged 18–29 find confidence, connection, and space for genuine self-expression. Since launching in April 2026, six partner organisations from Poland, Ireland, Portugal, Serbia, Austria, and Germany have joined forces to bring this vision to life.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Spotlight addresses a clear gap in Europe: with only 16% of autistic adults in employment, there is a real need for inclusive social skills training. This project uses improvisational theatre to help meet that need.

Our objectives are to:

- Develop a Theatre Production Toolkit, giving youth workers practical activity plans and resources
- Create a Training Programme & Facilitator's Handbook to build specialised skills across all six partner countries
- Deliver Performance Sessions, helping young people build communication and social skills through creative expression
- Support employability and inclusion, using theatre as a bridge into education, work, and community life
- Train 25+ youth workers per partner, embedding these methods into everyday practice for lasting impact
- Share our learnings through a Lessons Learned Report, so others across Europe can benefit

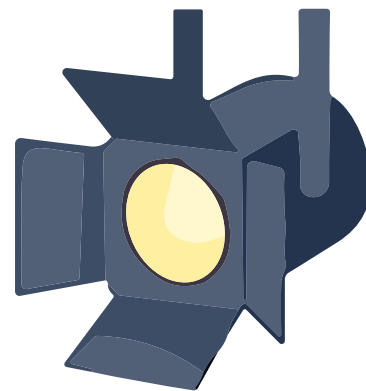


Co-funded by
the European Union

Co-Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the Foundation for the Development of the Education System (FRSE). Neither the European Union nor FRSE can be held responsible for them. Project Number: 2025-1-PL01-KA220-YOU-000350985



Spotlight



MEET THE COORDINATOR

MSK - Poland 

MSK:

Leading the project is Miejska Strefa Kultury (MSK), a municipal cultural institution in Łódź, Poland, that runs a wide network of local branches offering artistic, educational, and community programmes for all ages.

MEET THE PARTNERS

moveo  E.C.S.H.  JANUS
Escola de Ciências Sociais e Humanas



-  **Janus Education Network (Ireland)** draws on over 20 years of experience in leadership training and organisational development to support Spotlight's learning design and capacity-building work.
-  **E.C.S.H – School of Social and Human Sciences (Portugal)** contributes academic expertise and a commitment to inclusive education, connecting theory to real-world social impact.
-  **DAH Teatar (Serbia)**, an internationally recognised independent theatre company founded in 1991, brings over three decades of artistic and community-engaged theatre practice to the project.
-  **MOVEO (Austria)** specialises in accessibility and social inclusion, ensuring Spotlight's tools and activities are designed with equal participation at their core.
-  **Skills Elevation FHB (Germany)** leads on performance sessions, quality assurance, and communications, applying its background in performing arts and alternative education methodologies to the project's outputs.



Co-funded by
the European Union

Co-Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the Foundation for the Development of the Education System (FRSE). Neither the European Union nor FRSE can be held responsible for them. Project Number: 2025-1-PL01-KA220-YOU-000350985



Spotlight

First Transnational Meeting

On June 17th, partners travelled to Belgrade for our first face-to-face meeting as a full team. Over the course of the meeting, partners reviewed each work package, discussed the path ahead, and ensured every organisation felt clear and confident about their role in the project. It was a meeting grounded not just in planning, but in building genuine partnership.



What's Next?

Throughout the summer, the consortium will be working on the development of the Theatre Production Toolkit, and we will meet in Austria for our 2nd Transnational Partner Meeting in January 2027.

Keep in Touch!

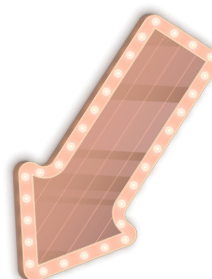
Like, Follow, Connect...



Facebook: facebook.com/spotlightprojecteu



Instagram: instagram.com/spotlight.project.eu



projectspotlight.eu



Co-funded by
the European Union

Co-Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the Foundation for the Development of the Education System (FRSE). Neither the European Union nor FRSE can be held responsible for them. Project Number: 2025-1-PL01-KA220-YOU-000350985