



## Support at the right time

UNION „DIA+LOGS”,  
SUPPORT CENTER FOR  
EVERYONE AFFECTED  
BY HIV/AIDS



HEALTH PROMOTION FIELD  
SPECIALISTS, SCHOOL YOUTH, NGO



One could say that while visiting Minsk (Belorussia) in September 2015, we were at the right place in the right time to develop a friendship with the local NGO “Pozitivnoje Dvizhenie” and help this organization. They, the same as “DIA+LOGS”, work in the field of health prophylaxis for the socially excluded social groups i.e. provides harm minimizing services.

This work was funded by the Global fund until 2015, but, when it seized its support for Belorussia, the state had to fund the projects that were already started. At the time, our experience, that the local government buys HIV prophylaxis services for people with drug addictions from NGO's, was very useful for our Belorussian colleagues.

We were happy to share our experience. It was appreciated in the way, that our Belarusian partners found a way to come to Riga and learn how to fund harm minimizing services from local government and state budget.

After meeting seven more Belarusian NGO's, we felt that our neighbours are very interested in our experience and knowledge. When we asked how Latvia can provide support and our Belarusian colleagues expressed their needs and urgencies, we felt true appreciation and trust. That is how a long list of what kind of support the NGO's of Belorussia need, was made. We even felt confused – what to do with this





Together with our Belarusian colleagues.

information and will we have the chance to realise projects in Belorussia? Will we be able to handle the activities of the volunteers, if we help “Pozitivnoje Dvizhenie”?

How to create a helping partnership with the hosting organization in this project – NGO “Social Assistance”, which wants to create a mutual educational centre for educating people working in the social field and adopting knowledge from Latvia?

Nevertheless, the results of this project are not only unanswered questions about continued cooperation. We are satisfied with the work we have done: the trip to Belorussia, where two representatives from “DIA+LOGS”, a journalist and a member of parliament took part. Knowledge about advancement cooperation and about what we saw in Belorussia has been passed on to hundreds of people in seminars, and users of social media. A fact page and a photo story have been created, our journalist, our Belarusian colleagues and us have also created seven articles.

Today we can say that the work in Belorussia on harm minimization continues, even though losing the funding from the Global fund did create certain threats. The cooperation with the union “Social Assistance” continues by communicating and some mutual project ideas are also considered.

“ Thank you to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the possibility and LAPAS for the most sensible project initiation coordination, that we have experienced during the last 14 years of operation! Latvia can and it must help its neighbouring countries!



The project team.



More about the project:

- <https://ej.uz/a9ok>
- <https://ej.uz/ks71>

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