



**Words are stones**  
**Adice national meeting**  
**May 21 2019**  
**"Acting against discrimination with international mobility"**

Adice organized the WAS national meeting in Lille "Acting against discrimination and hate speech through international mobility" on May 21st 2019.

During the meeting was presented the WAS national report on hate speech in France. A session has been dedicated to the analysis of the impact of hate speech on territory from a European perspective, underlining the important role that international volunteering can play in countering hate speech and discrimination.

The director of Adice began the meeting by stating that "involving civil society actors and citizens in public debate is necessary to combat hate speech", immediately after Olivier Letailleur presented the "Words are Stones" project and Adice's report on hate speech in France.

Samuel Thomas, Maison des Potes, Djamel Benia ADICE, Marie Chantal Zingiro Collectif kif kif, Eduardo Valenzuela Association Dialogues Citoyens were involved in a roundtable discussion. They discussed **the citizens' commitment to combating discrimination** and, Sakina Bakha (Maison des Potes Djamel Benia) emphasized the march for legality and the fight against discrimination. This changed the scenario in France; Eduardo Valenzuela, on the other hand, outlined the possibilities of French legislation to promote real and effective criminal prosecutions against those who discriminate.

The debate was stimulated by the use of the Slido.com site, through which participants were able to interact, through questions and answers, during the discussion.

For example, according to the participants of the event, discrimination based on national origin (94%) and gender (67%) are the two most common types of discrimination in today's society.

The second theme addressed was that of diversity: it has been said that this is a resource for the territory as it produces wealth. According to Sakina Bakha, it is a paradox that this issue is at the heart of public debate only now, given that France has always lived with migratory phenomena.



During the second part of the meeting, the focus was on International mobility and the role it can play in promoting intercultural dialogue. The evening was enriched by some testimonies from young volunteers. It has been stressed that it is important to make mobility accessible to all, highlighting also, thanks to the presentation of some data, the positive impact it has on young people and on society as a whole.

The meeting concluded with the presentation of programs and opportunities for international mobility: from the International Civil Service, to the European Solidarity Corps, to the Erasmus Pro to the eErasmus for young entrepreneurs.