Annual Meeting of the European FGC Network

Vic, 28 - 30.09.2022

Country Report Catalan FGC Network

2022 is proving to be a decisive year in the constitution and articulation of a Catalan network of FGC.

As some of you may remember from previous meetings, for years some professionals have been introduced and trained in the look, model and ways of doing and working of the FGCs. We have done it with Martina Erpenbeck, and more recently with Estrella de la Osa, both from Hamburg.

On some occasions there has been a clear institutional commitment, such as that of the County Council of Osona; on others, desires and attempts were not consolidated, but always leaving motivated professionals to advance in this change in the way in which we contribute to families finding solutions to those situations that concern them, activating all their capacities and potentialities.

Our European meeting in 2021 acted as a trigger to start shaping our network, and we are confident that these days of meeting in Vic will become a source of momentum, as its preparation has already been.

We are certainly at an initial stage as a network, so we are not presenting results, but rather lines of work that have already begun.

We have planned a network open to all those people and organisations interested in the growth of the FGC: facilitators, professionals, people who have participated in a FGC, students...

We have set up different circles: a steering group, working groups and a plenary session.

This year we have held 3 plenary sessions, all of them online, and in October we will hold a 4th one, this time in person, taking advantage of a joint training action.

These working groups are:
- welcome and communication
- training and accompaniment
- institutional relations

We consider we have interesting potentialities:
- The experience of more than 6 years in the Osona region.
- A municipality, Platja d'Aro, which has jointly trained a wide range of people as facilitators.
- A foundation, FASI, which has applied for European funding to set up an FGC office.
- and professionals trained in different areas of social intervention.

And some challenges ahead:
- activation of the working groups (communication, training, institutional relations)
- mutual support between the different local initiatives
- to have the capacity to train new facilitators
- incorporating non-professionals into this role
- to achieve the recognition of Catalan institutions as a valid and convenient model for individuals and families.