

with the collaboration of



present

ERASMUS+ Youth Exchange BEYOND THE WALLS Marche-en-Famenne, Belgium 8-22 August





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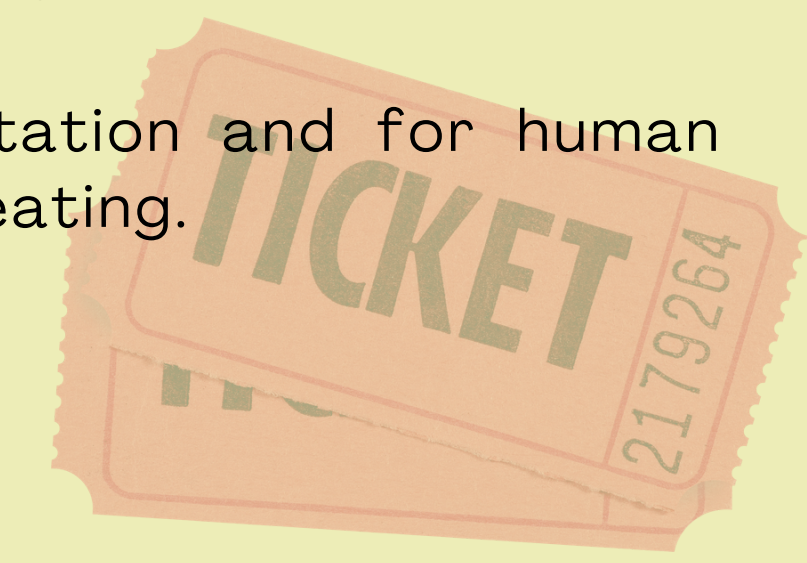
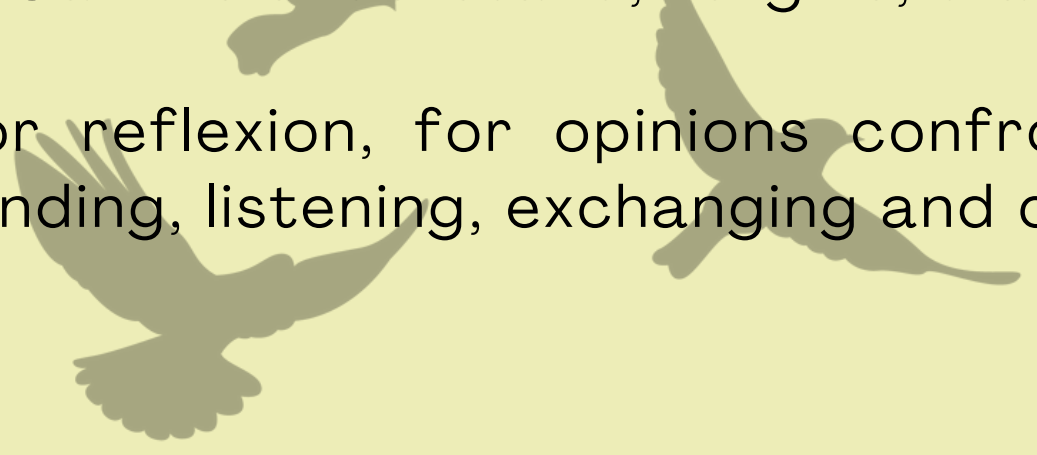
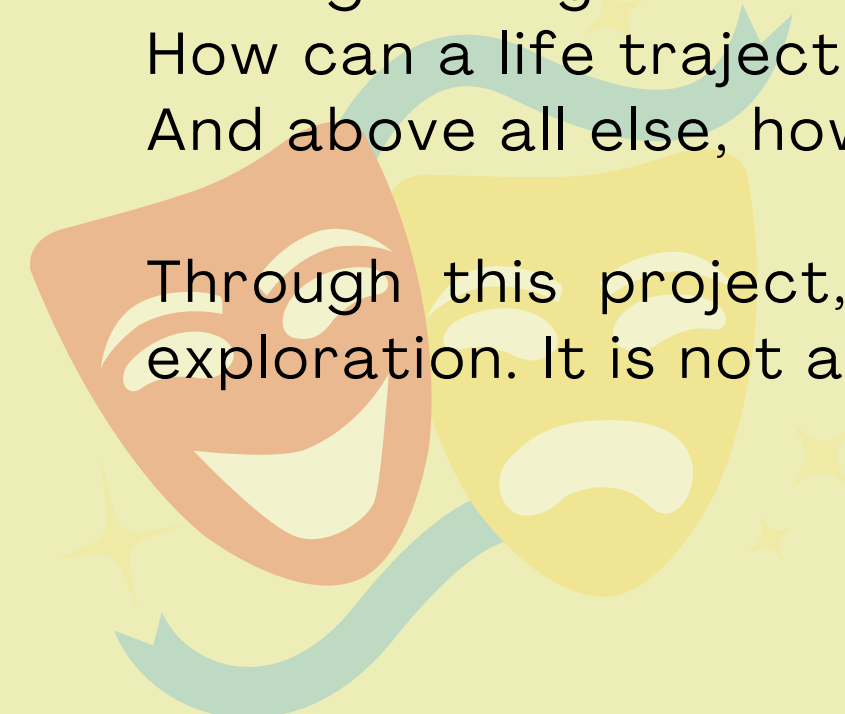
PROJECT

« **BEYOND THE WALLS** » is a youth exchange follow-up of the mini youth exchange « Cast Shadows » (1 week and 2 partner countries) that took place last October in Marche en Famenne, gathering young people living in Belgium and in Austria.

After the very positive evaluations of the participants and their motivation to go deeper in this topic, seldomly explored in our organisation until now, we want to propose a longer youth exchange to fulfill this purpose. In October we just scratched the surface of this large topic that needs more time to be developed..thus was born « Beyond the walls ».

What if your life was turned upside down? If one single mistake, one bad choice was leading you behind bars? Through « Beyond the walls », we invite you to explore the unknown and often stereotyped prison universe. How can a life trajectory lead to prison? Which events, social contexts, injuries or choices lead to imprisonment? And above all else, how can we rebuild ourselves after? Can we understand, forgive, transform?

Through this project, we wish to create a space for reflexion, for opinions confrontation and for human exploration. It is not about judging, but rather understanding, listening, exchanging and creating.





PROJECT

A HUMAN AND COMMITTED APPROACH

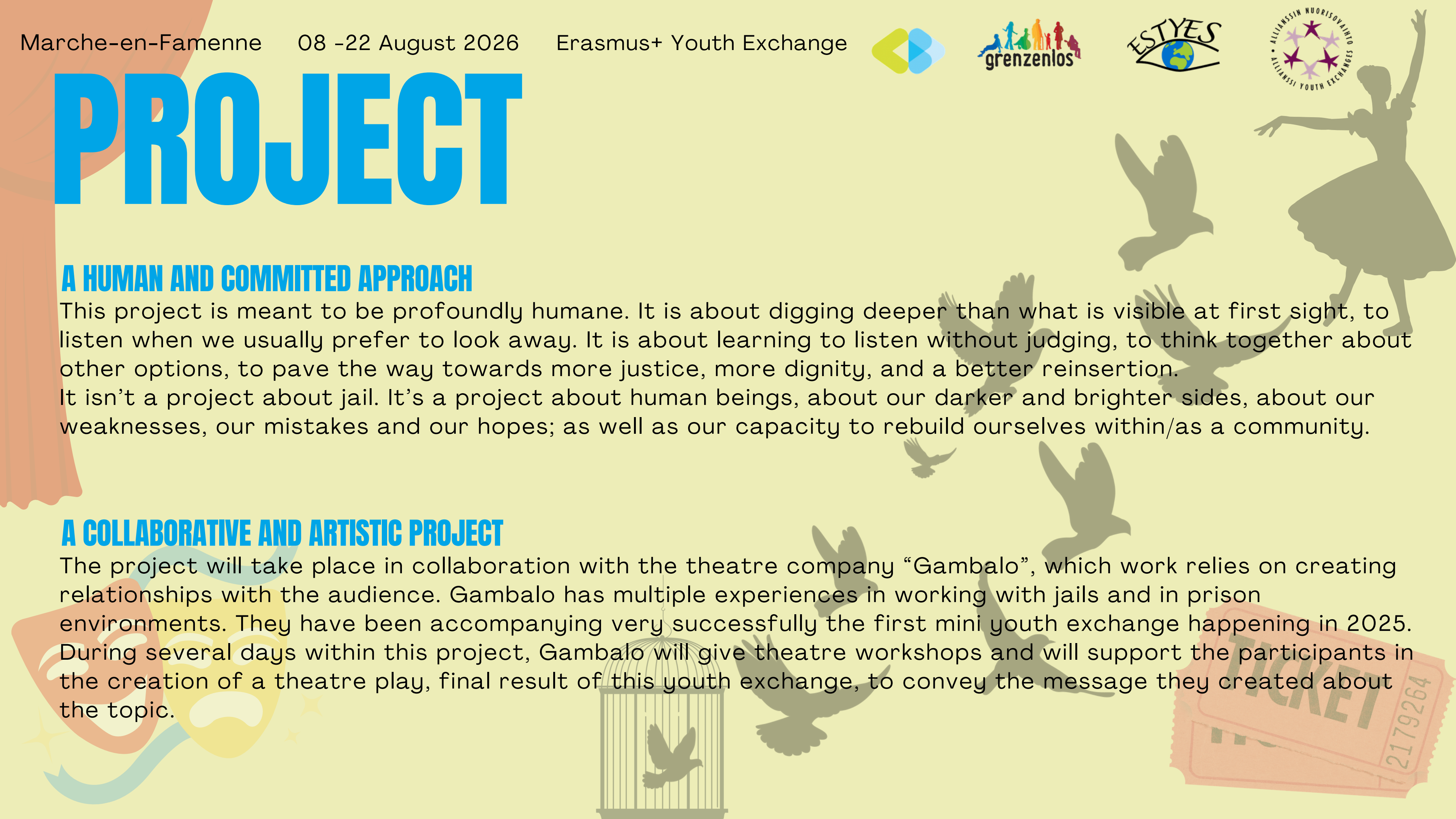
This project is meant to be profoundly humane. It is about digging deeper than what is visible at first sight, to listen when we usually prefer to look away. It is about learning to listen without judging, to think together about other options, to pave the way towards more justice, more dignity, and a better reinsertion.

It isn't a project about jail. It's a project about human beings, about our darker and brighter sides, about our weaknesses, our mistakes and our hopes; as well as our capacity to rebuild ourselves within/as a community.

A COLLABORATIVE AND ARTISTIC PROJECT

The project will take place in collaboration with the theatre company "Gambalo", which work relies on creating relationships with the audience. Gambalo has multiple experiences in working with jails and in prison environments. They have been accompanying very successfully the first mini youth exchange happening in 2025.

During several days within this project, Gambalo will give theatre workshops and will support the participants in the creation of a theatre play, final result of this youth exchange, to convey the message they created about the topic.





PROJECT

This youth exchange will be in collaboration with different associations and local partners working on the topic.

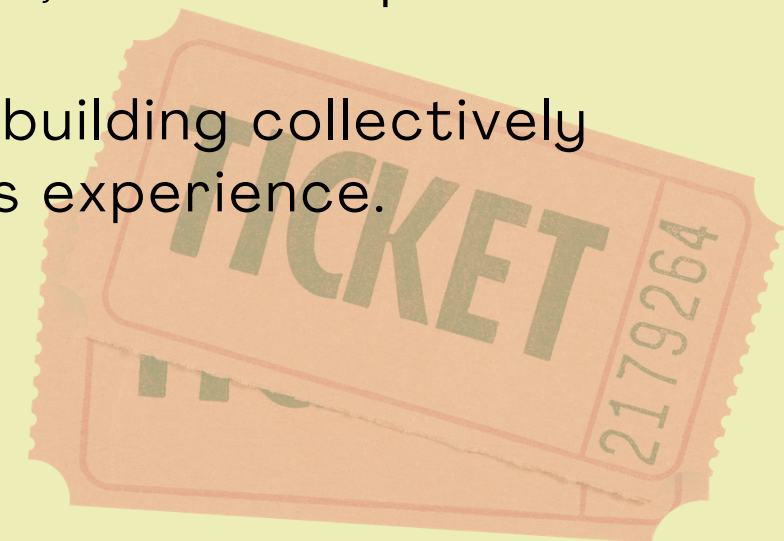
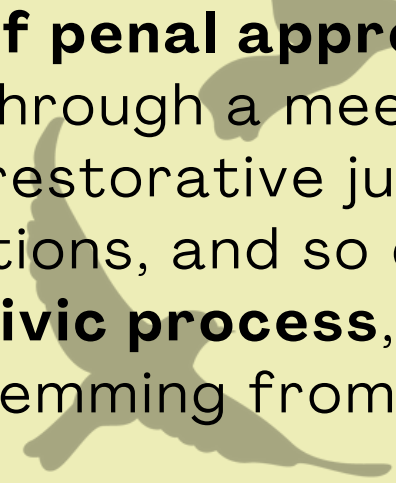
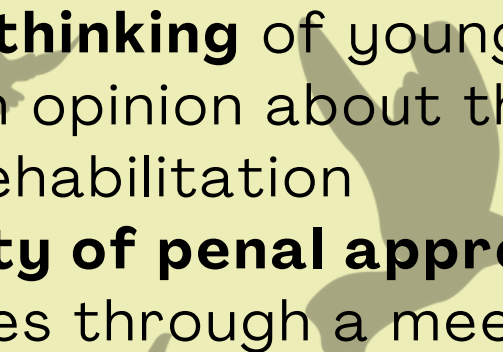
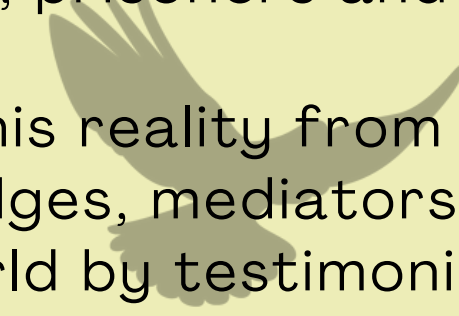
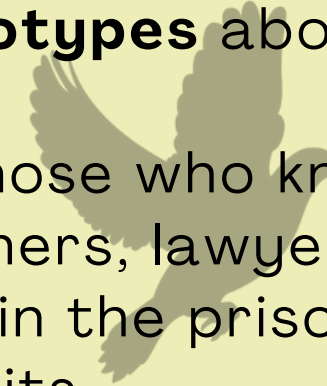
BiLoM, the library of Marche en Famenne which organizes reading and board game workshops at the Marche-en-Famenne prison and which will host the performance of our play for a children's/young audience; the Marche-en-Famenne prison will host us for a morning of board games (led by BiLoM) and for a second performance of the play for the prison's inmates and guards. The staff of the prison will come to prepare the young people, explain and answer to the questions before the activities in the prison.

The idea of the show that we have in mind and will create together (with the guidance of Nicolas, actor and director of Gambalo theatre company) will be to explain what is the prison to a children's/young audience, taking inspiration from children's literature. It's a very particular approach but really interesting and that can lead to very rich reflections.

Example of possible activities:

- Theatre workshops;
- Meetings with people involved (former prisoner, prosecutor, prison warden...);
- Compare the legal system and the path of a prisoner in the different countries involved;
- Encounter with other organisations active in this field;
- Visit a former jail
-





OBJECTIVES



- **Deconstruct stereotypes** about jail, prisoners and legal system
- **Give the word** to those who know this reality from the inside: former prisoners, lawyers, judges, mediators, organisation active in the prison world by testimonials, round tables and visits
- **Encourage critical thinking** of young citizens, bring them to analyse their own opinion about the wrongdoing, the responsibility, the rehabilitation
- **Explore the diversity of penal approaches** in Belgium and in the other countries through a meeting of minds: alternative sentences, restorative justice, rate of repeat offence, custody conditions, and so on
- **Start an artistic and civic process**, by building collectively a theatrical creation stemming from this experience.



WHO

25 young people from **18 to 30 years old**, from from 4 partner countries (5 young people + 1 youth leader per organization, 2 for CBB).

Each organization will ensure that its group is heterogeneous and includes young people from different social backgrounds and abilities.

Country participants: **Belgium** (CBB), **Austria** (Grenzenlos), **Estonia** (Estyes) and **Finland** (Allianssi).

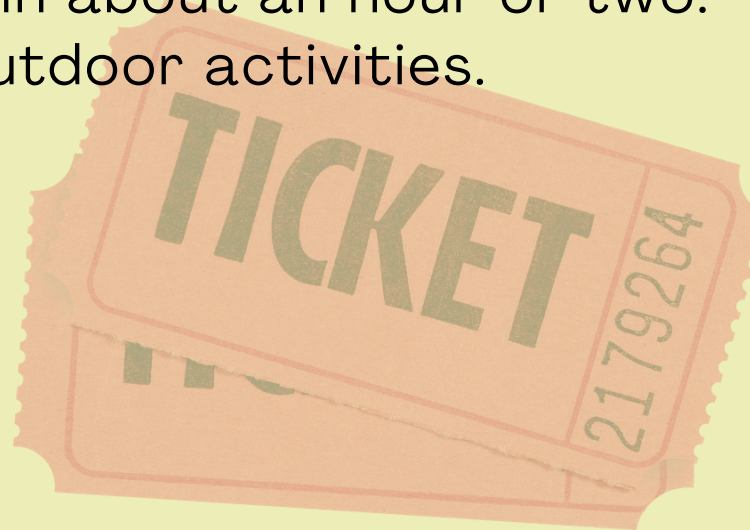
WHEN

15 days, from **August 08th until August 22th** (08th and 22th are travel days).

WHERE

Marche-en-Famenne is a small town in the countryside located in the south of the country. You can find everything there: schools, shops, industries, services... The town is surrounded by several industrial estates, but also by woods, fields and small villages where the pace of life remains rural. Liège, Namur and Brussels are easily accessible by train in about an hour or two. It is also a good base camp to discover the natural heritage of the Ardenne region and to practice outdoor activities.

WHO, WHEN, WHERE





Expectations towards the participants

When registering to this project, we ask you to:

- **Be ready to reflect collectively on the theme of imprisonment, its causes, and its consequences on a life trajectory (we insist on it because this topic has specific implications)**
- **Be ready to visit a former jail (beware that this is part of the programme of the activities)**
- Be ready to get actively involved into the different workshops
- Be ready to live experiences with a group, learn and exchange together
- Be ready to use your imagination and express your creativity
- **Be motivated in the practice of theatre, exploring the topic through a theatrical creation and performance**
- Be ready to develop your critical mind and put your ideas in perspective
- Be ready to get involved in the group dynamic, within a multicultural group

WHO, WHEN, WHERE





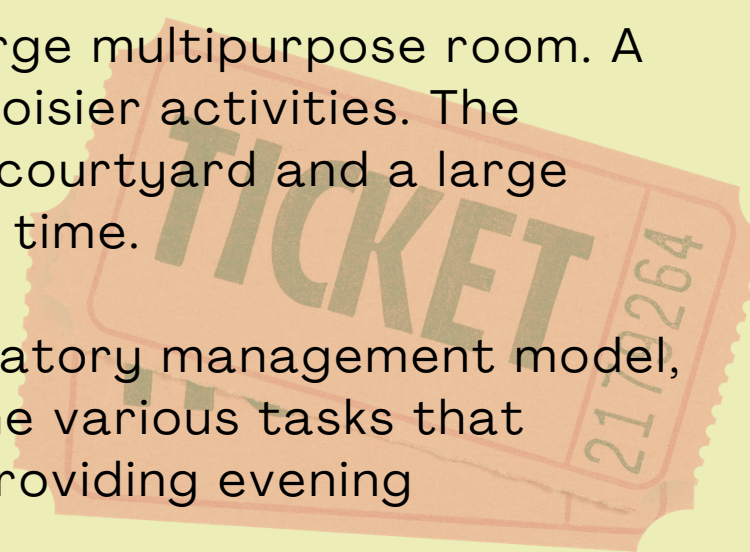
LIVING CONDITIONS AND ACCOMMODATION

The group will be staying at "La Campagnette," a former boarding school acquired by the Compagnons Bâisseurs in 2024. It is located about 400 meters from the Marche-en-Famenne train station.

Throughout the year, different groups use the place, for a day, a week, or more. We host and organise there workcamps, youth exchanges, workshops, trainings, ...

It consists of four dormitories arranged around a large multipurpose room. A second room, slightly set apart, can accommodate noisier activities. The building is equipped with restrooms and a kitchen. A courtyard and a large garden will allow the group to relax during their free time.

The project will be organized according to a participatory management model, where each person will be invited to contribute to the various tasks that structure daily life: organizing meals, cleaning, and providing evening entertainment.





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Theatrical performance

Cast Shadows



A collaboration between



Friday 31st October 2025

15h - Studio des carmes
Marche-en-Famenne



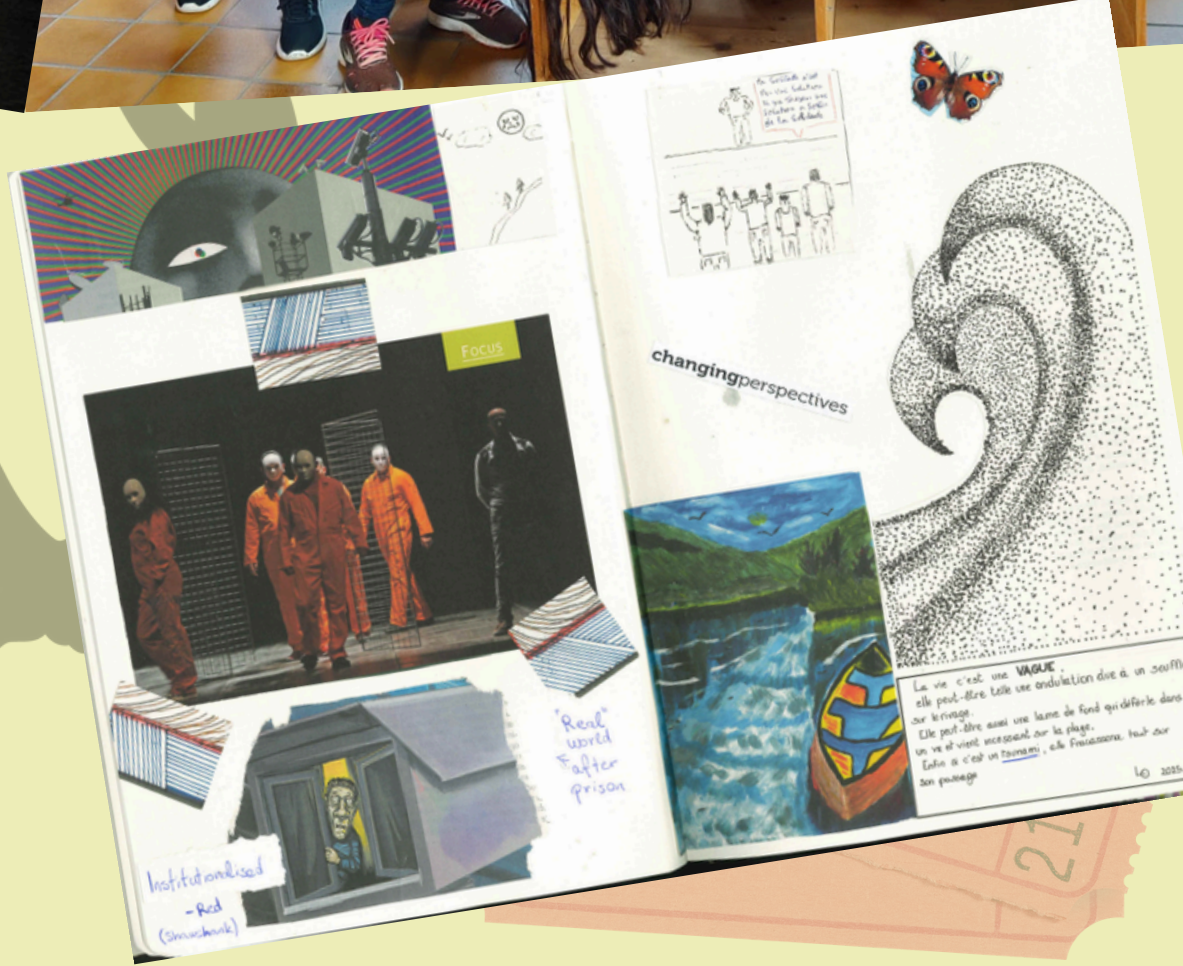
"J'AIME APPORTER DU BONHEUR"

"My First DAY IN THE THEATRICAL STUDIO"

Dreaming of freedom, healing my scars.

My first day in the theatre studio was full of fears, mixed feelings, nervous, shy... I was nervous but ready to give myself and I was inspired by repeated practices and it looked so real. Seeing the prison set made me think about freedom, justice and hope, even though it was just acting. Every small detail with meaning.

I was in a cage, and it caused me damage.





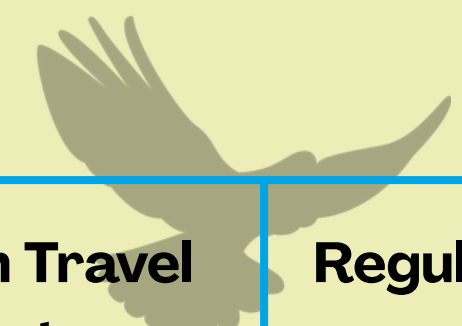
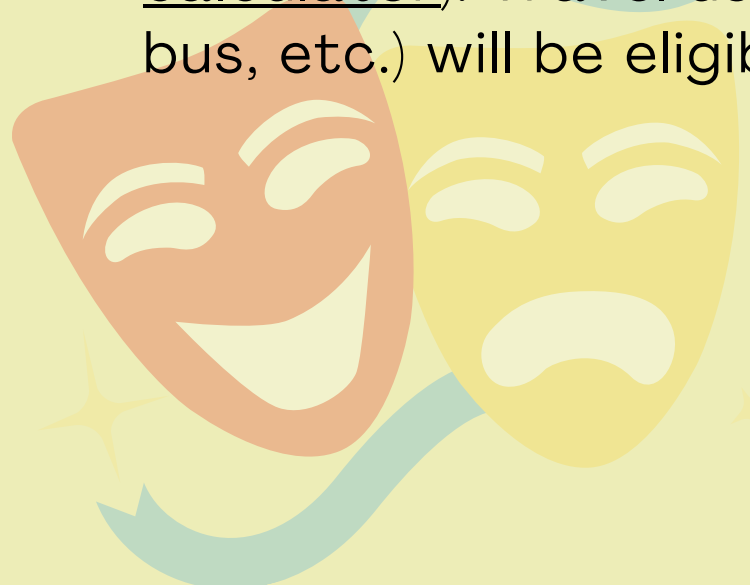
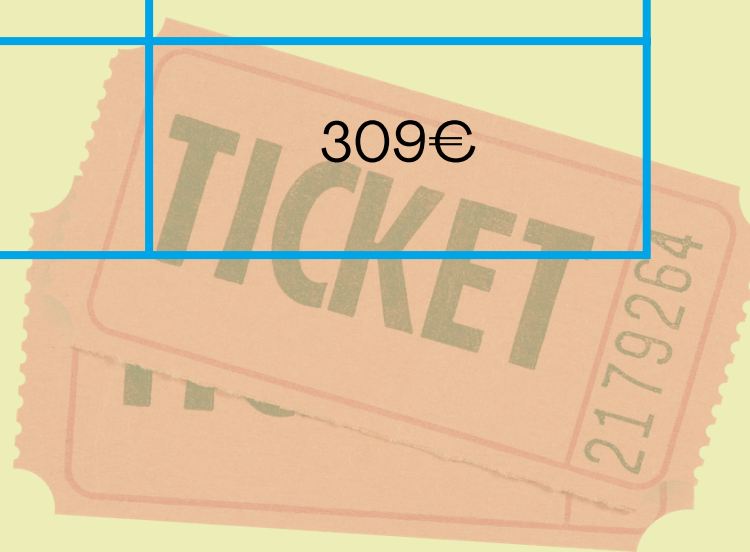
BUDGET

This project is implemented with the support of the European Commission.

Accommodation and activity costs will be covered by CBB.

Travel expenses will be reimbursed according to the Erasmus+ allowance (distance travelled is calculated using the website <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/resources-and-tools/distance-calculator>). Travel using sustainable modes of transport (train, bus, etc.) will be eligible for the "**Green Travel**" allowance.

Travel distance	Green Travel costs	Regular Travel costs
10-99 km	56€	28€
100-499 km	285€	211€
500-1999 km	417€	309€





This project is led by a group of young people from CBB. We also wish to involve the partner groups in its preparation.

WhatsApp exchanges, video conferences, and shared folders can therefore be organized between the different groups before the trip (details to be finalized together with the partner organizations).

CONTACTS ET EXCHANGES BEFORE THE PROJECT

A graphic of a ticket with the word 'TICKET' and the number '2179264' on it.

TICKET

2179264



- ♦ for everything linked to registration, administrative questions, refunding tickets, ...
incoming@compagnonsbattisseurs.be

Alba

- ♦ for everything linked to the pedagogical aspects of the project, objectives, programme of activities, workshops, visits...
animation@compagnonsbattisseurs.be

Michele

CONTACTS





THANK YOU!

Michele, Nicolas, Asli, Louise are waiting you in Belgium.

