

"Convergent perspectives on socio-educational actions"

Carmen Fructuoso



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record in labor insertion projects and community revitalization, currently working in [La Periférica Association](#)

How was the association La Periférica born?

La Periférica was born from an idea that some of us professionals in the socio-educational field in Nou Barris had one coffee afternoon around 2008. We came up with the idea of creating an association and carrying out our own proposals. The idea didn't push at that time and we each continued with our individual professional careers, living new experiences but never losing contact with each other. Ten years later we got together again and we decided that it was time to take up the idea again as we saw that it could really be an opportunity for personal and professional development. At that moment we started to give the association a much more elaborate planning, using our convergent perspectives and with the desire to put our values into action.

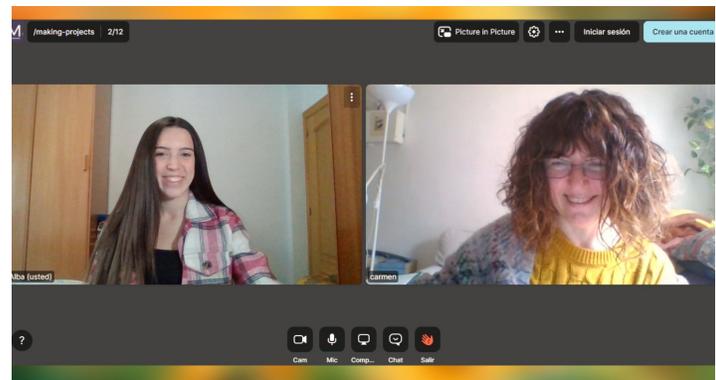
"using our convergent perspectives and with the desire to put our values into action."

How do you respond to this idea of transforming and helping people in practice?

Well, this transforming essence that I was talking about, and this community perspective that we all share, has been materialised in projects in the cultural and educational fields, which are the two pillars on which we are based as an association.

The association is very useful for us as a legal platform to be able to carry out actions, establish networks and work with organisations, universities, town councils...

It helps us to promote community projects and neighbourhood involvement, especially in the Can San Joan neighbourhood in Montcada i Reixac where our headquarters are located.



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How did you start working on projects at European level?

Thanks to our individual professional trajectories, each of us has had his/her own growth process and has had experiences that have allowed us to create a network of contacts, which has obviously been an important point, which we wanted to highlight from the beginning. We have really done a little dissemination, it is the entities that have contacted us and this is thanks to the professionalism of the team. La Periférica is a sum of perspectives, an educator, a pedagogue, a sociologist... who come together with the same desire, this nourishes our projects a lot as it gives them a multidisciplinary vision.

So by the moment we continue with this laboratory of experiences, trying to go as far as possible and consolidate ourselves as a worthy way of earning our lives by dedicating ourselves to what we love.

And specifically, how did the collaboration with Trànsit and CEPS come about?

It is a win-win strategic collaboration. In the DNA of Trànsit and CEPS, the idea of expanding their projects to reach as many structures as possible prevails. The strategic point is that we are a field entity, we are in direct contact with the user.

We are proposed to work hand to hand in two projects: Resolution and Change of view.

Both fit very well with our field of work in the socio-educational world and for us it is a great opportunity to participate in them, it opens a window to see how other countries in Europe work. So this is how we embarked on this shared adventure.

At which point in these two projects are you?

At the moment we have reached the halfway point of both projects. On the one hand, in Change of View we are developing three productions. Firstly, an intellectual production that revolves around the reflection on empowerment and the change of view of professionals in the socio-educational field, providing them with elements of reflection on the relationship that exists between the person accompanying and the person being accompanied. Secondly, a Gallery of Testimonies with a methodology for applying the tool. And thirdly, a pedagogical board game that responds to a training course on innate talents.

"At the moment we have reached the halfway point of both projects"

On the other hand, the Resolution is focused on the creation of an online course. A MOOC for professionals in the socio-professional field and labour insertion, focused on the accompaniment of people who are far from employment.

What has the process and experience of making a game as a pedagogical tool been like?

Making a game requires a lot of reflection due to its pedagogical objectives and the target audience, which are professionals working with people at risk of social exclusion.

This should be a useful tool to bring about precisely this change in the way professionals on socio-educational accompaniment treat not only the people they accompany, also themselves as professionals, dismantling certain stereotypes and vices that sometimes appear in the accompaniment process. Right now we are in the methodological development of the game, trying to implement all the objectives set out at the beginning with this training in innate talents. It's a process that's being co-produced with the rest of the partners and led by Trànsit.

How has the pandemic affected this relationship with other European countries?

Most of the work that was done in these projects was online from the beginning, because travel was limited and defined from the initial planning to certain moments when it was considered necessary to carry out face-to-face actions. But obviously the pandemic has affected. Since March 2020, these planned transnational meetings have been interrupted.



Transnational meeting before Covid19 #Changeofview_eu

It has not been too uncomfortable because we are used to the dynamics. But it's true that from my point of view the human relational quality is lost. And this is an intangible capital important in the construction of these projects.

How have you approached the using of the tools you are developing in the actual context of pandemic?

In both projects, all the resources will be available openly and free of charge on the project's own website. Also the materials are designed to be downloadable and applicable in all countries by all those interested.

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