

# Community Organizers Training Programme

Prague, April — October 2026

# WORKSHOPS

## Community Organizing

This workshop explores how community organizing works in practice within the Czech civil society context. Through guided reflection, discussion, and hands-on exercises, participants deepen their understanding of key principles such as relational work, trust-building, mobilization, and shared responsibility. The session includes personal reflection on participants' own roles and motivations, work with practical tools such as community mapping, and space for peer exchange. A follow-up peer session provides structured support for discussing real challenges and opportunities for collaboration.

### Vendula Veronesi

*NESEHNUTÍ, Družstvo Viktorina Loca*

A trainer, facilitator, and community project manager with more than fifteen years of experience in the non-profit sector. She focuses on civic participation, community organizing, and supporting newcomers' involvement in local communities. Through her work with NGOs and a local cooperative, she aims to help people connect, collaborate, and contribute to a world built on solidarity.

## Intercultural Competences

Participants will work on identity development and cultural differences through methods based on experiential pedagogy. Using concrete situations and exercises, they will reflect on real cases from practice. In the second part of the workshop, participants will focus on looking for possible solutions to these situations through facilitated discussion and supervision.

### Dana Moree

Dana Moree specializes in intercultural education, inclusion, marginalization, and Theatre of the Oppressed. She works as a teacher, therapist, and supervisor. Her research at the Faculty of Humanities focuses on social change, with particular attention to the transition from oppression to empowerment across a wide range of contexts.

## From Othering to Belonging

What does it take for all of us to belong—in our communities, our institutions, our shared environment? And what is getting in the way? In a time marked by rising polarization, division, and fear, the frameworks of Othering, Belonging, Breaking, and Bridging offer powerful tools for understanding our world—and transforming it. In this interactive workshop, Evan Yoshimoto weaves personal storytelling, somatic reflection, shared learning, and group dialogue to explore how the forces of othering shape our lives at personal, professional, and structural levels—and how we can meet them with practices of belonging and acts of everyday bridging.

Whether you're navigating ruptures in your own relationships or trying to build more inclusive structures, this session invites you into a deeper conversation about how we move from judgment to curiosity, from fear to connection, from breaking to bridging in order to create a world where everyone, truly everyone, belongs, including the earth.

### Evan Yoshimoto

*Democracy & Belonging Forum*

Evan Yoshimoto is the Head of Community at the Democracy & Belonging Forum. Based in Berlin, he stewards a global network of over 600 members working to advance democracy and belonging through bridging practices. At the core of this work is creating the conditions for alignment, connection, capacity, and collaboration to thrive across the network in service of supporting efforts that advance democracy and belonging through bridging approaches. Evan also leads the Forum's Network Catalyzers Program, supporting network members in building communities that strengthen trust and decentralize power. He holds degrees from the University of California, Berkeley and the Hertie School in Berlin.

### Mónica Márquez Bobadilla

*MigAct*

Mónica Márquez Bobadilla is co-director of MigAct and a community organizer with experience in civic participation, grassroots organizing, and civil society development. With a background in social communication and sociocultural anthropology, and originally from Mexico, she brings a cross-cultural perspective rooted in both personal and professional experience. She also works as a trainer and facilitator of intercultural competences for public servants across Czech state institutions, including the Ministry of the Interior, Labour Offices, and the Foreign Police. At MigAct, she focuses on building trust and connecting people across sectors and backgrounds.

### Natallia Allen

*MigAct*

Natallia Allen is a co-director of MigAct and works at the intersection of active citizenship, civil society, education, and intercultural communication. She has been involved in numerous participant-centered educational projects as a curriculum designer and trainer, focusing on civic engagement, NGO and project management, and intercultural communication. Drawing on her intercultural and lived experience as a naturalized Czech citizen with roots in several countries, she brings diverse perspectives together and explores questions of belonging.

## 4 Co-creation and Facilitation Methods

This interactive workshop explores how intercultural communities can work together in participatory and inclusive ways. Participants learn what co-creation means in community organizing and how facilitation supports collaboration, decision-making, and shared responsibility. Through practical exercises and group simulations, they experience methods such as asset mapping, World Café, retrospective, and participatory decision-making. The session focuses on structuring group processes clearly, ensuring all voices are heard, and sharing power transparently to build trust and equity.

## 5 Communication Skills in Intercultural Context

In this session, participants gain basic knowledge and skills in stage presence techniques through short frontal presentations combined with practical training. The session covers the foundations of stage presence, including non-verbal communication (posture and gesture), verbal expression, and working with space and technical equipment. It also addresses nervousness and self-confidence, working with the public, gaining and maintaining attention, managing conflict, and adapting presentations to different contexts, with emphasis on intercultural interactions. Participants will also work on presentation structure and practical techniques for smooth delivery.

### Václav Kovář

*(Participation Factory)*

Václav Kovář (Participation Factory) has spent most of his professional life fundraising and managing teams in the cultural sector. Five years ago, he became involved in community development, which led him to work in participation. He currently works as a facilitation and process design lead at Participation Factory and also lectures on facilitation and stage presence. In his free time, he volunteers as a leader of an environmental organization in Beroun, where he lives.



## Fundraising and Projects

This session builds on participants' work and focuses on practical fundraising skills. It begins with an overview of fundraising possibilities and continues with developing a clear case for seeking support from potential donors. Participants present their first pitch and receive feedback from the group. They also work on shaping fundraising arguments for different communication channels and leave with a clearer understanding of how to approach donors and articulate their case for support.



### Marie Bednářová, M.A.

*(Czech Fundraising Center)*

Marie Bednářová, M.A. (Czech Fundraising Center) worked for 14 years at IOM (International Organization for Migration), where she coordinated international development cooperation projects in Georgia, Armenia, Moldova, Ukraine, and Romania, and was also involved in the integration of migrants into society. She contributed to the development of the methodology for the government's adaptation and integration courses for migrants and, as a trainer, focused on intercultural and teaching skills. For the Prague City Hall, she coordinated the websites Prague - Metropolis of All and Prague National Minorities. Since 2020, she has worked at the Czech Fundraising Center as Program Director, and also serves as a trainer and consultant.