# BIP Invisible cities: listening and talking TO people wouter.frateur@ap.be



AP.BE

# How to set up a BIP

Are you interested to participate in an international social project?



# Invisible cities





### Invisible cities

Wants to make the voice of those who aren't heard audible and

make the often unseen people visible

by means of online productions and constructive interviews

made by journalism students

from different European cities (Antwerp, Cluj, Ede, Helsinki, Pécs, Tbilisi, Zagreb)



# Existing output

- www.invisible-cities.eu
- Stories / portrayals of homeless people, drug addicts, disabled persons, prostitutes, LGBT, ...
- Different formats
  - Longreads
  - Portraits
  - Short documentaries
  - Audio slideshows



### What students and lecturers liked

- get in touch with people who are in a vulnerable situation. Actually **talking** to them
  - "It's about the person, not the story"
- constructive approach: focus on strengths and not only on problems
- getting aware of their biases
- collaborating with people coming from another background, another approach of journalism



### What students and lecturers liked

- multiperspectivity: approaching and understanding the situation from different cultural angles
- get to know another city = general cultural exchange
- familiarize with social system and its challenges in BIP's country
- compare it with the situation at their home country



# **Impact**

- change of students' mindset and approach
- learning from people and each other, both students and teachers
- increased intercultural expertise
- new learning practices, teaching methods and skills
- inspiring extra inclusive module / projects in other schools?



# Challenges

- Constructive approach
- Sticking to the format
- "We all got very emotional"



# Questions?

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