



## **Abstract – Felicitas Kresimon**

Good Practice services: promoting Human Rights & Recovery in Mental Health

### ***Social Firms Europe CEFEC***

Social Firms Europe CEFEC unites and represents social firms and enterprises and umbrella organizations from 22 countries, predominantly European. The network was founded 32 years ago at a time, when employment was increasingly difficult for individuals who are at a significant distance from the labor market because of their disability or disadvantage. Social Firms Europe CEFEC is a truly participative and integrative network, working on behalf of its members across all the EU member states to promote the model of Social Firms and social co-operatives at EU, national and regional levels realizing the following activities:

- Collect data and evidencing about the impact of Social Firms
- Facilitate networking and sharing of best practice between members
- Share skills and expertise of members
- Encourage and explore opportunities for further research into the Social Firm model as it operates in different EU countries
- Promote and facilitate where possible inter-trading opportunities between Social Firm businesses

Social Firms CEFEC, as a strong organization of civil society, has successfully worked for the employment and work of persons with mental health or disability problems and background of migration, developing tools and methodologies for the evaluation, capacity building, vocational training and education, job mediation and inclusion of workers with different backgrounds in their social enterprises, cooperatives and organizations.

Every year CEFEC organizes a conference to exchange and compare "best social practices" on new topics of discussion. Based on the assumption that new needs always require new answers and new synergies, the CEFEC annual meeting main aim is to develop joint contributions and make them usable and transferable to different contexts.

In June 2019 the annual conference took place at Trieste, San Giovanni, considered as the ideal place to host this initiative, as it is a prestigious city of innovation, specially for Dr. Franco Basaglia's historic revolution in the field of mental health, based on knocking down walls and restraints to be replaced by paths of inclusion and democracy in the light of sustainability and social economy. Just starting from his theories and experience in the field of mental health, in 1972 the first Italian social cooperative called "CLU Franco Basaglia" was born for the inclusion of fragile individuals.

One of the main partners, besides Legacoopsociali, the Municipality and the University of Trieste, has been the Mental Health Department of Trieste.

More than 250 persons from 18 different countries have given their active participation, a result considered important at a time when exchange and collaboration at European and international level are more than ever necessary. For the same reasons the massive participation of young people, students, peer workers etc., has been very significant.

We need to create opportunities to transmit, discuss, transform, protect and develop our contents and practices in favour of an inclusive society and humanity. The international meeting "Good Practice services: promoting Human Rights & Recovery in Mental Health" will be another important moment to further develop also these topics.