

Rehabilitation Center for Stress and Trauma Zagreb (RCT) is an independent, humanitarian and non-profit organization that provides psychosocial support and empowerment for the disadvantaged. RCT began operating in 1993. as a multidisciplinary program organized by the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture victims and is established as independent organization in 1998. RCT develops and provides rehabilitation and integration services to refugees, IDPs and returnees, particularly to torture survivors and survivors of other severe traumatic events. RCT is a member of International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims (IRCT).

In the first 15 years of RCT worked mainly with refugees, IDPs and returnees from former Yugoslavia. Since 2008, and more actively since 2015. RCT has been involved in supporting asylum seekers and persons with granted international protection from Middle East and Africa, who came to Croatia. Our activities in this field of work are aimed at rehabilitating and empowering victims of torture and other traumatized persons among refugees, on networking and capacity building of stakeholders in the international protection system and support for asylum seekers and persons with approved international protection in integration and employment.

Over the years, the RCT has accumulated considerable knowledge, experience and skills in **psychotherapy, counseling, training** and supportive work with refugees and migrants as well as other vulnerable beneficiary groups, networking with stakeholders and professionals in local communities, and enhancing the capacity of local service providers and community organizations. Particularly significant is the experience and skills of psychotherapy and counseling work with interpretation with beneficiaries who do not speak Croatian language. RCT psychologists and other professional staff in 2016. started implementing Solution Focused Brief Therapy. RCT collaborates with the North West Brief Training Center from Olympia, USA, and with its founder and director Dr. Stephan Langer, who is RCT's consultant and mentor in the implementation of the SFBT. We also collaborate with the European Brief Therapy Association (EBTA), making our work visible in SFBT professional circles in Europe and beyond.

Examples of projects:

From 2016 to 2018, RCT carried out project "[Rehabilitation, Empowerment, and Integration of Asylum Seekers](#)" with partners from Austria and Germany. As part of this project, RCT has developed an innovative Short-term Solution Focused Group Intervention, a group-work model for people with experience of trauma.

In 2017-2019 RCT coordinated the transnational [WELCOMM project](#): Supporting integration of Third-Country Nationals through developing learning and collaboration tools to build welcoming and inclusive communities.

In the area of integration of persons with approved international protection, RCT recently implemented project MENTOintegRation: Mentoring in social and labor market integration of refugees, in partnership with Centre for Social Welfare Zagreb. In this project, RCT developed mentoring based on the principles of Solution Focused Brief Therapy with the aim of social and work inclusion of persons with granted international protection.

In its work, RCT pursues cross-sector partnerships and collaborations with public service providers: public social welfare centers in several communities/municipalities in Croatia, local and regional governments, health institutions such as Croatian Institute for Public Health. RCT cooperates with the Faculty of Social Work, Zagreb University and with the Department of Psychology at the Faculty of humanities and social sciences, Zagreb University.

In the local communities in which it operates, RCT collaborates and participates in networking and capacity development, with all local stakeholders: health centers and social welfare centers, local government units, employment services, community police, educational institutions, and local civic initiatives, organizations and employers.