



# ZOOM EAST 2018



**Youth Work**  
**Erasmus+ Youth**  
**European Solidarity Corps**  
**Eastern Europe and the Caucasus**



## Editorial introduction

Dear reader!

We are very glad to introduce the first issue of Zoom East magazine. It is being published by the SALTO Eastern Europe and Caucasus Resource Centre in cooperation with its network of Erasmus+ Info Centres in Eastern Partnership countries and Russia. We hope that the magazine will be a platform for presenting Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps (ESC) developments in the region.

Zoom East does not pretend to cover all the situation of both programmes in 7 countries of the east. It would be definitely too ambitious, as every year hundreds of organisations and thousands of young people are involved in very many different Erasmus+ projects and soon also the ESC activities. We aim to show case studies and diverse examples of youth work activities related to European educational programmes for young people.

The first issue of Zoom East focuses on our newly established network of Info Centres. Their work began in the middle 2017 and already during the first months of operation many centres had their first successes. One centre is

located in each of 7 different countries, so we hope it helps to build recognition of their role as well as the position of our programmes.

The magazine is divided into 8 chapters. Every country of the region has its own 5 pages where different articles are published in English as well as in local language. We would like the articles in local languages to be not just translations of English materials. They are full fledged articles, presenting either unique projects or a topic from English, but adopted to local readers. The last chapter is for SALTO EECA materials. Again, with the same approach – we do not plan to report all our activities, but more to highlight few examples of our work and its direction.

We hope Zoom East will become a significant resource in European educational programmes for youth. It should help to promote the programmes in the region and to build their recognition among stakeholders, from young people to youth policy makers. The magazine will hopefully also add to the attractiveness of Eastern Partnership countries and Russia and will highlight the quality of youth projects implemented in the east.

Enjoy reading! If you have any feedback for us, do not hesitate to let us know! Find contact details on the last page of the magazine.

Your SALTO EECA team.



## What is the SALTO-YOUTH Resource Centres network?

SALTO-YOUTH stands for Support, Advanced Learning and Training Opportunities for Youth. It works within the Erasmus+ Youth programme, the EU programme for education, training, youth and sport as well as the newly established European Solidarity Corps programme.

SALTO-YOUTH is a network of six Resource Centres working on European priority areas within the youth field. As part of the European Commission's Training Strategy, SALTO-YOUTH provides non-formal learning resources for youth workers and youth leaders and organises training and contact-making activities to support organisations and National Agencies within the frame of the European Commission's Erasmus+ Youth programme and beyond.

The six resource centres each focus on a specific topic or region. They are all based at a different Erasmus+ National Agency. The resource centres are:

- SALTO Inclusion & Diversity (Belgium-Flanders)
- SALTO Participation & Information (Estonia)
- SALTO Training and Cooperation (Germany)

- SALTO Eastern Europe and Caucasus (Poland)
- SALTO EuroMed (France)
- SALTO South-East Europe (Slovenia)

In addition to their specific priorities, the SALTO-YOUTH Resource Centres have a number of joint tasks such as developing training resources, sending regular newsletters about European YOUTH priorities, providing a European Training Calendar, making experienced European youth trainers accessible and evaluating the training activities.

On [www.salto-youth.net](http://www.salto-youth.net) you'll find lots of useful tools:

- The European Training Calendar is where you'll find trainings and seminars run by SALTO, Erasmus+ NAs and NGOs in the youth field.
- The Toolbox for Training contains hundreds of tools and activity ideas for youth work.
- Otlas Partner Finding puts you in touch with thousands of youth projects, so you can build strong partnerships and apply for Erasmus+.
- Trainers Online for Youth is our directory of over 500 trainers, who can deliver your international training activities.

Check out 90 seconds movie about SALTO EECA:  
[www.salto-youth.net/EECA\\_clip](http://www.salto-youth.net/EECA_clip)



## Promoting Erasmus+ Youth in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus

Information and promotion of Erasmus+ Youth is one of the fundamental tasks of SALTO Eastern Europe and Caucasus (EECA). Similarly to other regional SALTO Resource Centres, its aim is to make sure the programme is accessible in the EU neighbouring countries. In case of SALTO EECA it focuses on two neighbouring regions: Eastern Partnership as well as Russia. The European Commission as well as network of the National Agencies expects that the main target group of Erasmus+ Youth, the young people, especially those with less opportunities, will have access to information about programme opportunities. Naturally it is not possible that every young person in every little town in the regions is informed, but everyone should have the possibility to gain the information, not only in English, but also in their local language.

When SALTO EECA was created in 2003, there was almost no information about the European Union youth programme in the region. Therefore, the first informational network of Multipliers was created. It was made of over 30 active and experienced youth

workers, who were involved in projects of the youth programme and were voluntarily interested in promoting it. In the beginning, the information was spread in quite an informal way, knowing the close, personal connections among non-governmental organisations in the region. The Multipliers were very passionate about the international youth work and happily put their effort into promoting EU youth programme. The Multipliers formula was very successful as a first stage of promoting European non-formal education opportunities and encouraged hundreds of new organisations into cooperation.

### Erasmus+ Youth Info Centres

When Erasmus+ was established, the informational situation in Eastern Europe and Caucasus was very different than in 2003. So many organisations and young people were informed about the opportunities, that the financial and formal limits of the new programme did not allow all quality projects to be financed. It was the moment of reflection and change of focus into reaching more specific target groups and raising the quality of implemented projects. In 2017 SALTO EECA decided to open the Info Centres network. A group of the most experienced organisations in European youth programmes, ready to organise official events and less



official activities to promote existing opportunities. The Info Centres are based on organisations, therefore the cooperation is more formal, but also more demanding. On the one hand such a format offers more stability and professionalism, while on the other hand it builds synergy, allowing organisations to grow and gain recognition. The information base of each Info Centre is harmonised and the outcomes are reported and commonly evaluated. Each Info Centre operates an office, where interested people can come and get consultation within agreed hours, each one having an official e-mail @salto-youth.net and also running correspondence via the Messenger. Each Centre has an annual schedule of activities, that is published online. For SALTO EECA the additional advantage of the cooperation with Info Centres is the possibility to offer more materials, information and content in local languages than previously.

The fact, that in each country in the region there is only one Info Centre, makes the responsibility more clear. After a year of operating the Info Centres, it is evident how some of them has benefited and build their image as one of the main Erasmus+ Youth actors in the region. SALTO EECA cooperates closely with the local ministries responsible for youth and many of them warmly welcomed establishment of the Info Centres. Already the signals from some ministries has been clear, they

expect such a format of local representatives and promoters of the EU youth programmes. Cooperation with EU delegations as well as national offices of Erasmus+ responsible for higher education projects allows the Info Centres to be even more effective and give these EU institutions another tool to support implementation of the European youth policy.

### Info centres' future

Erasmus+ Youth is slowly coming to an end, but a new programme was recently just opened – the European Solidarity Corps. The Info Centres will continue to play a crucial role in information and promotion of the Corps. SALTO EECA plans to continue such institutional cooperation with selected organisations beyond 2020, when the Erasmus+ finishes. One of the key aims of the future programme is going to be the cooperation with partners from outside the EU (the internationalisation). Most likely the programme after Erasmus+ will also foresee a role for Resource Centres, so the network of Info Centres will definitely gain new tasks and responsibilities.



## Online tools for promotion

Information about the Erasmus+ Youth is enhanced by online tools, managed by SALTO EECA:

- official web-site of the SALTO-YOUTH network, with section dedicated to Eastern Europe and Caucasus:  
[www.salto-youth.net/EECA](http://www.salto-youth.net/EECA)
  - web-pages of the Erasmus+ Youth Info Centres in Eastern Europe and Caucasus:  
[www.salto-youth.net/EECA\\_infocentres](http://www.salto-youth.net/EECA_infocentres)
  - the Facebook page, with news and information related to Erasmus+ Youth in Eastern Partnership countries and Russia:  
[www.fb.com/saltoEECA](http://www.fb.com/saltoEECA)
  - YouTube channel with audiovisual materials and curated playlists with videos about different areas of youth work in the region:  
[www.salto-youth.net/EECAyoutube](http://www.salto-youth.net/EECAyoutube)
  - Instagram collection of projects' examples with great photos:  
[www.instagram.com/saltoEECA](http://www.instagram.com/saltoEECA)
  - Flickr album with ex-volunteers reflections about the value of international volunteering:  
[www.flickr.com/EVSevents](http://www.flickr.com/EVSevents)
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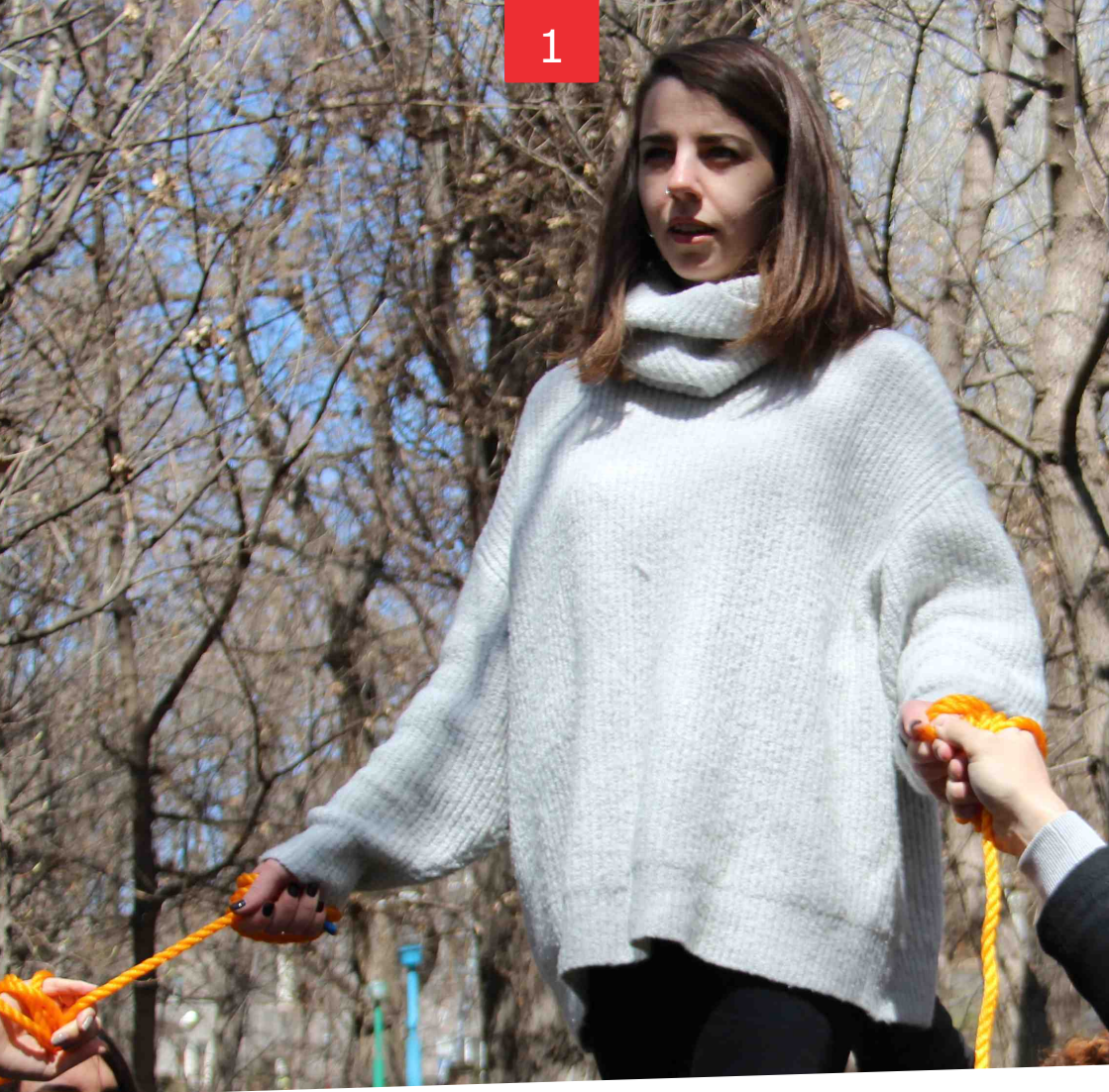


# TABLE OF CONTENTS

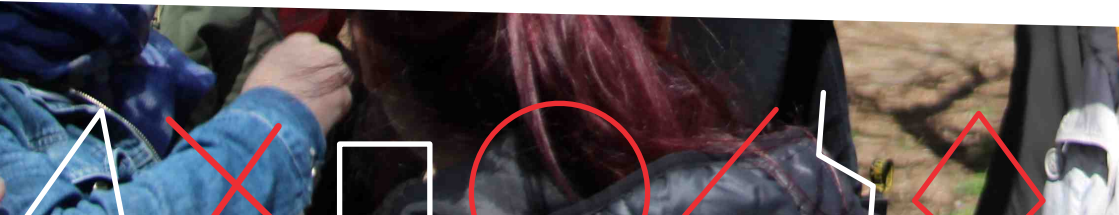
ARMENIA	1
AZERBAIJAN	7
BELARUS	13
GEORGIA	19
MOLDOVA	25
RUSSIA	31
UKRAINE	37
SALTO EECA	43







# ARMENIA Հայաստան



## Sharing Erasmus+ Youth in Armenia

The Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Armenia started its operations in July 2017 when the Gyumri "Youth Initiative Centre" (YIC) NGO took over coordination of activities of the Centre. The main aim of the Info Centre is to provide information on opportunities for young people and youth organisations within the Erasmus+ programme and support stakeholders in implementation of their projects.

In September 2017 the Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Armenia gave press conference dedicated to the launch of its activities. During the conference, the president of Gyumri "Youth Initiative Centre" NGO Artur Najaryan spoke about the goals, directions of activities, target groups of the Info Centre as well as the

opportunities for youth. State, public and media organizations were invited to the conference. The head of the EU Delegation to the Republic of Armenia H.E. ambassador Piotr Świtalski, the head of Youth Policy Department of the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of Armenia Tamara Torosyan and programme coordinator at National Erasmus+ Office in Armenia Lana Karlova were present at the press conference. The latter spoke about the importance of establishing of the Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Armenia, emphasizing how useful it is for youth.

The Info Centre has been invited to various events organized for NGOs in Armenia, such as the Youth Camp, EDU Fest, Youth Forum, Educational Tool Fair, NGO Fairs etc. where we presented the activities of the centre, the types of consultation it provides and the Erasmus+ Youth programme opportunities for the Armenian youth, for state and non-governmental organizations.



The Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Armenia implements local and international training courses on mentoring European volunteers. The trainings are aimed at empowering local and foreign mentors, to improve the quality of volunteering projects through building the capacities of the hosting organizations and equipping mentors with vital methods to support and guide volunteers towards development of their competences.

The Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Armenia also organises info meetings at universities and info houses in different regions of Armenia. During the meetings the educational and training opportunities for young people and youth workers are promoted. Usually, representatives of organizations with Erasmus+ Youth experience are present to share their stories. The attendees also have an opportunity to meet European volunteers from abroad and get acquainted with their experience in Armenia.

The representatives of Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre provide regular face to face meetings and consultancy in Yerevan, Gyumri and other cities around Armenia. During the meetings, representatives of different organisations are consulted about Erasmus+ opportunities and the application and accreditation process for volunteering projects.

In 2017 the Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in cooperation with the Gyumri "Youth Initiative Centre" NGO prepared a surprise initiative to mark International Students Day. As a result, 3 lucky students were given an opportunity to participate in training courses abroad in the frames of the Erasmus+ Youth programme. The students' awarding ceremony was followed by EDUfest, which was the first educational festival of its kind in Gyumri. EDUfest was coorganised by the Gyumri "Youth Initiative centre" NGO in collaboration with "World Vision Armenia" at "Hayordats Tun".

The Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Armenia in cooperation with the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs organized an info event in Charentsavan - Youth Capital of



Armenia in 2017. The info event was attended by the representatives of SALTO Eastern Europe and Caucasus Resource Centre. Beside the basic information about the Erasmus+ Youth, there were also open space discussions with the representatives of SALTO EECA and Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Armenia. During the second part of the event there were presentations of success stories by ex-participants of Erasmus+ Youth projects in three categories: 1) Volunteering, 2) Youth Exchanges, 3) Mobility of Youth Workers.

## Youth Exchange "From Happiness to Wellness"

"Happiness is not ready made, it comes from our own actions" said the Dalai Lama. Our youth exchange was not simply a project but a platform that was implemented mainly by participants themselves to experience, practice and develop the tools of "Happiness". During the project, participants were actively involved in self-initiated group works, discussions, energizers, games and practical exercises that served as a powerful base for the meeting. Participants managed to explore and create the tools that make other young people happy and discovered interconnections between happiness and wellness.

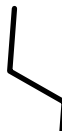
In our daily life we often face many problems and challenges which influence our health and mood, and make us forget our dreams and needs. There are many reasons why people find the right work-life balance and having a healthy life style. Our youth exchange was aimed at exploring ways of improving happiness and healthy lifestyle among youth, finding the bridge between happiness and wellness, and methods of measuring happiness in the context of physical, mental and social wellbeing.



With the help of facilitators participants also learnt about the neuroscientific approach to “How to become perfectly happy”. And with famous peoples’ quotations about Happiness and Wellness, participants created their own definitions. Young people organised several workshops on relaxation like “Mindfulness”, “Body Scan”, “Yoga” and personal development workshops on “Public speaking”, “Basics of SPR”, “Trust Game”, “Chess” and others. They had short trip to “Dendropark”, a unique botanical garden where they tried the slackline that was facilitated by one of the French participants.

Another interesting part of the project was the community work. Participants had a chance to explore the local community where they interviewed local people and asked them “What makes them happy?”. The excitement of the game was very high and participants presented their outcomes with a big enthusiasm. In their national groups young people prepared presentations about “Cultural Happiness” and shared what is unique in their cultures that makes them happy and well. The evenings were full of activities with games, teaching national dances, sharing cultural food and singing together.

Co-organiser: International  
Center for Intercultural Research,  
Learning and Dialogue, Yerevan:  
[www.intercultural.center](http://www.intercultural.center)



Erasmus+ Youth Տեղեկատվական կենտրոնների ցանցը ստեղծվել է 2017 թվականին:

Կենտրոնները գործում են Արևելյան գործընկերության 6 երկրներում և Ռուսաստանում: Այս երկրներից յուրաքանչյուրում կենտրոնների գործունեության համակարգման իրավասությունը մրցութային կարգով ստանձնում է տվյալ երկրի մեկ կազմակերպություն: Հայաստանում Erasmus+ Youth Տեղեկատվական կենտրոնի գործունեության համակարգման լիազորությունը հանձնվել է Գյումրու «Երիտասարդական նախաձեռնությունների կենտրոն» ՀԿ-ին:

Հայաստանում Erasmus+ Youth Տեղեկատվական կենտրոնն իր գործունեության առաջին վեց ամիսների ընթացքում տրամադրել է 80 խորհրդատվություն հեռախոսով, էլեկտրոնային փոստով, դեմառդեմ հանդիպումների միջոցով: Իրականացրել է 13 տեղեկատվական հանդիպում Հայաստանի տարբեր մարզերում: Տեղեկատվական կենտրոնի աջակցությամբ իրականացվել են Եվրոպական կամավորական ծառայություն ծրագրի մենթորների վերապատրաստման տեղական և միջազգային ծրագրեր, որոնց ընթացքում վերապատրաստվել են 43 երիտասարդներ 12 երկրներից:

Ավելի քան 1300 մարդ հնարավորություն է ստացել տեղեկանալ Եվրամիության «Էրազմուս+ Երիտասարդություն» ծրագրի կողմից հայ երիտասարդներին, պետական և հասարակական կազմակերպությունների ներկայացուցիչներին ընձեռվող կրթական ու վերապատրաստման հնարավորությունների մասին:

## Հայաստանում Erasmus+ Youth Տեղեկատվական կենտրոն

### 2017 վիճակագրությունը



**100**  
իրապարակումներ  
**250**  
սկարներ



**1300**  
տեղեկացված  
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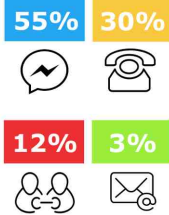
**1450**  
հետևորդներ



**18**  
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**13**  
տեղեկատվական  
ն հանդիպումներ

### Խորհրդատվություններ



# Info Centre AZERBAIJAN



Erasmus+

## ERASMUS+ YOUTH.

## Azərbaycanda Məlumat Mərkəzi



# AZERBAIJAN AZƏRBAYCAN



## The Info Centre's Launching Event

In October 2017 the Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Azerbaijan was officially launched. Naturally it was not beginning of its activities. The Centre was created in June 2017 and so already had experience of setting up informational tools and starting promotional events. After the tender procedure, organised by SALTO Eastern Europe and Caucasus, it was decided to start the Info Centre in Azerbaijan on the base of "Bridge to the Future" organisation from Ganja. As Azerbaijan is very much centred on Baku, one of the main aims of the newly established Info Centre was to reach young people and youth organisations in the regions. Especially where no Erasmus+ projects have been organised so far.

The launching event took place in the Ganja Youth House, gathering representatives of youth organisations, schools, local administration and media. The coordinator of the Info Centre introduced the Erasmus+ programme and described the assistance that the Info Centre can offer to interested organisations and youngsters. Beside the official information, practical tips and advice were shared, to empower participants in their involvement into Erasmus+ Youth. Another element

of the event was interactive workshop, where participants could express their needs and expectations of the Info Centre's work in the upcoming months.

Participants and guests wished the Info Centre lots of energy and motivation in their mission!





## Youth Exchange "Be cycling friendly"

### ZOOM EAST

The main aim of our Youth Exchange "Be cycling friendly" was to give an opportunity to young Europeans, to learn about environment protection, to encourage intercultural learning, promote cycling and a healthy lifestyle. Participants talked about current problems they are facing nowadays in their countries regarding protecting the environment and climate change. We talked about how could we change the situation in the future by starting from the small steps to protect nature. We had workshops on recycling and refurbishing which are important aspects in protection of our environment at both the local and global level. The bicycle refurbishing and decorating workshop was a central activity of our youth exchange.

Participants had a very interesting time, learning about designing posters, producing short videos, writing articles about activities carried out during our youth exchange. The first two days were mostly focused on intercultural learning, where we discussed the meaning of culture, intercultural sensitivity and experienced a special tool called swapping cultures. Moreover, two intercultural nights were the significant part of

intercultural understanding, when participants had a chance to present and learn about each other's cultures, local habits, food, traditions, dances, music, and other important facts.

Over the following days there was plenty of workshops. One day participants could watch a very recent movie called "Racing Extinction", which helped us with a powerful message to start a discussion about environmental issues. Participants talked about current problems we are facing nowadays in our countries regarding protecting the environment and climate change. We talked about the influences we as humans have on the environment and how could we change the situation in the future by starting from the small steps, like changing our behaviour to protecting our environment.

We had dedicated half a day at the end of the exchange to consolidate the promotional materials and plan the future media promotion of the project results at home. Of course participants also learnt about Erasmus+ programme opportunities for youth. It gave participants the opportunity to think about new projects to multiply the effect of our youth exchange. At the end of the workshop participants developed 4 project ideas.

Co-organiser: Azerbaijan  
Students' Union, Baku: [www.asu.az](http://www.asu.az)





## Avropada könüllü olmaq, ya olmamaq?

Salam gənclər, bir az söhbətə vaxtınız varmı? Gəlin sizlə bir az Avropada könüllük fəaliyyətinin önəmindən, sizə nələr verəcəyindən danışaq.

Mənim hekayəm bundan 1 il öncə "Gələcəyə Körpü" Gənclər İctimai Birliyinin Polşada uzun müddətli fəaliyyət üçün bir nəfər gənc axtarışında olduqlarını öyrəndiyim gün başladı. Bir neçə həftə çəkən seçim mərhələlərindən sonra dünyalar mənim idi, çünki o şanslı gənc mən olmuşdum. Viza, sənədləşmə kimi işlərimizi də həll etdikdən sonra, özümdən iki dəfə böyük çantamla Polşaya yollandım və 11 aydır ki, burada yaşayıram.

Hal-hazırda, 3-25 yaş arası mental və fiziki əlilliyi olan şəxslərə xüsusi təhsil verən məktəb və məktəb sonrası onları iş mühitinə hazırlayan mərkəzdə fəaliyyət göstərirəm. Onların dərslərində iştirak edərək dəstək olur, həmçinin asudə vaxtlarını səmərəli keçirmələri üçün xüsusi seminarlar və s. təşkil edirik.

Sualınız var təbii ki, niyə bu yolu seçdim? Təhsil aldığım müddətdə son iki ilimi müxtəlif yerlərdə könüllü fəaliyyət göstərərək keçirirdim Azərbaycanda olarkən. Və bir müddət sonra daha artığını etmək istədiyimi qərarlaşdırdım. Çünki mən insanlıq

üçün bir şey edirdimsə, orada milliyət, dil, din rol oynamalı deyildi. Əsas olan mənə həqiqətən ehtiyacı olan birinə yardım edə bilmək idi. Bu düşüncələrin nəticəsində ilk addımı atmış oldum.

Bəs bu könüllük fəaliyyətim mənə nələr qazandırdı? Aldığım dərsləri, praktiki öyrəndiklərimi bir kənara qoyuram, çünki əsas olan hansı hisləri yaşamaq olmamdır. Könüllü fəaliyyət həyatınızda edə biləcəyiniz ən möhtəşəm şeydir, çünki bu yola çıxanda qarşılıqsız çıxırsınız və aldığınız kiçik reaksiyalar belə sizi dünyanın xoşbəxti edir. Mənim fəaliyyətim kimi olacaqsız sizinki də, iki qat şanslısınız, çünki sizin görməzdən gəldiyiniz, dəyersiz gördüyünüz şeylərin, əslində nə möcüzəli işlər olduğunu görəcəksiniz. Tələbəniz qaşığı sərbəst ağzına aparanda və ya ilk dəfə stulda sərbəst otura biləndə, ilk dəfə işarət dili ilə ünsiyyət qurduğunuzda və əsası onların qəlblərində özünüze yer edəndə əsl xoşbəxtlik nədir anlayacaqsınız.

Amma EVS bundan da daha artığıdır, 7/24 sizə nəse öyrədən yeganə məktəbdir və önəmlisi bunu siz fərqudə olmadan edir. 5 fərqli milliyətdən insanla birgə yaşayan biri olaraq sizə bunun zamanətini verə bilərəm. Bir süfrə arxasında oturub tarixdən siyasətə, incəsənətdən adət-ənənələrə qədər hər şeyi müzakirə edəcəksiniz. Tolerantlığı, insanları olduğu kimi qəbul edə bilməyi, "beynəlxalq ailə" olmağı, "mən" yox, "biz" deməyi öyrənəcəksiniz.

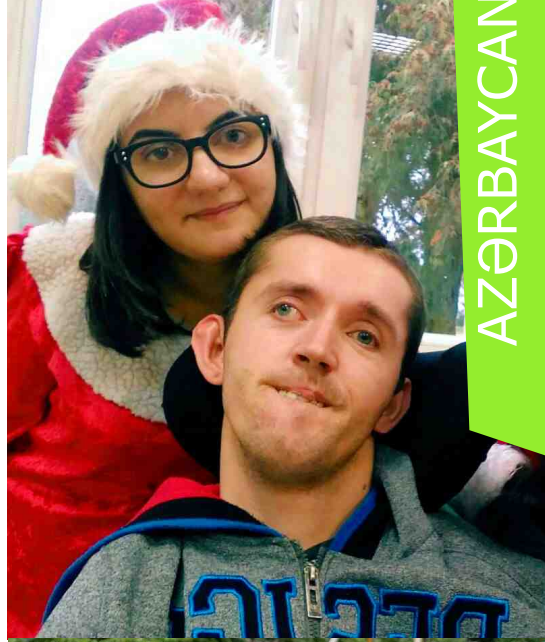
Və EVS sizə ölkənizi, tarixinizi, adətlərinizi daha dərindən göstərəcək. Bəzən saatlarla çəkən



təqdimatlar edəcək, plov dəmləyəcək, çayın önəmindən. Hə, təbii bir de "nəqliyyat vasitəsi kimi dəvə istifadə edirsinizmi?" kimi qəribə suallara da cavab verməyi öyrənəcəksiniz. Bir sözlə, çətin, amma dəyərli bir məsuliyyəti üzərinizə götürəcəksiniz, çünki o insanlar Azərbaycanı sizinlə tanıyacaqlar.

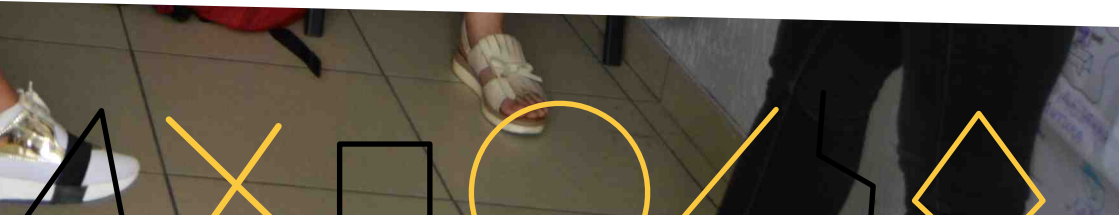
Ümumilikdə isə, EVS ölçüsü və məhdudluğu olmayan surpriz bir çantadır. Siz onun içərisinə fərqi olmadan o qədər çox şey əlavə edib saxlayacaqsınız ki, həyatınızın geri qalanında heç gözləmədiyiniz anda köməyinizə çatanda anlayacaqsınız bunun dəyərini. Səyahət etməyi, insanlara güvənməyi, paylaşmağı, yaşadıklarınızı daha çox sorğulamağı, bu həyatda kim olmaq istədiyinizi öyrənəcəksiniz.

Mən qaldığım yerdən məmnunam, yeniliklər mənlilik deyil, dünyanın dörd bir yanından insanlar tanımaq, coğrafiya dərslərində adlarını öyrəndiyim ölkələrə səyahət etmək mənə heç maraqlı deyil, yeni dillər, adət- ənənələr məni mənasız stressə salır, çətinliklərə qalib gəlmək, özümü faydalı hiss etmək nəyə lazım deyirsinizsə, çox təəssüf ki, bu paylaşdıklarımı oxuyaraq boşuna vaxtınızı itirdiniz, yox mən bunun tam əksini düşünürəm deyirsinizsə, EVS məhz sizi gözləyir.





# BELARUS



## The need for Erasmus+ Youth information

The Erasmus+ Info Centre in Belarus was established in June 2017 with the following priorities for the first period of its activity:

1. Identification of the needs and expectations of Belarusian youth organizations interested in Erasmus+.
2. Inclusion of people from vulnerable groups as participants in Erasmus+ projects.
3. Focus on competences which can be gained from Erasmus+ projects.

The Info Centre's first event was a meeting of 13 Belarusian organisations active in the Erasmus+ Youth programme. This allowed organisations' needs and expectations to be identified as a basis for future activities of the Info Centre.



### Quality changes for young people

- Active citizenship of young people and development of their soft skills should be a focus. Positive example of volunteering can support this.
- Vocational guidance and the possibility to increase competitiveness in the labor market, including a legal literacy campaign should be provided.
- Intercultural exchange and possibilities to build tolerance and break stereotypes should be promoted.
- Youth should have easier access to Erasmus+ opportunities. Vulnerable youth should have equal opportunities to participate in Erasmus+ (access to information, also in their native language). Youth leaders should be involved in Erasmus+ promotion.
- New methods for promoting information about the Erasmus+ opportunities should be taken into consideration (Facebook, Vkontakte, Youtube, etc).
- Access of youth to the opportunities of Erasmus+ should be simplified.

### Quality changes for youth work

- Youth work should be flexible and policy makers should be involved. Constructive dialogue between organisations and authorities should be promoted. Youth work interests should be reflected in the country's youth policy.



- There should be more coordination among organisations in order to be more effective. Erasmus+ promotional events should be organised, targeting youth workers.
- Youth organisations should remember about vulnerable youngsters and have competences to work with such target groups. There should be no obstacles for young people to participate in Erasmus+ projects.
- Youth workers should be involved into designing future youth programmes.
- Idea of volunteering should be further promoted, allowing from one hand to form active citizens, and from the other to strengthen organisations based on volunteers involvement.

Furthermore the Info Centre created a network of young multipliers who are able to inform and promote the Erasmus+ programme. Due to their age, they can easily approach their peers as well as reach youth from different backgrounds. There were 2 multiplier trainings organised, involving 16 young people, who were trained about the basics of the programme. Multipliers also have learnt about potential benefits of Erasmus+ projects for young people and youth organizations as well as how to transfer this knowledge using non-formal education approach. In first 3 months:

- Quality changes for youth organisations**
- More organisations from the country should be informed about Erasmus+ opportunities and youth workers should be supported to initiate their own projects. The networking among organisations should be enhanced, to benefit from possible synergies.
  - Especially outside of the capital, the organisations should be provided with access to information, high quality consultation and training. They should be also supported in finding international partners for own projects.
  - Continuation of cooperation with ex-participants of Erasmus+ projects can bring benefits for both sides. Organisations can get new, experienced and motivated human resources.

- the multipliers organized 10 informational meetings about Erasmus+ programme for 166 people,



- 80% of all meetings were regional (Zhodino, Vitebsk, Brest, Mogilev, Rechitsa, Gomel),
- 3 informational meetings were specially organized for youth from vulnerable groups (for youth with visual disabilities in Gomel, for youth with psycho-physiological disabilities in Vitebsk, and for young orphans in Minsk).

Last but not least, Info Centre in Belarus designed easily understandable bookmarks and stickers based on 8 Key Competences used in European Union educational programmes. The bookmarks and stickers were used during different activities and projects of Erasmus+ programme. They contain visual representation and simple explanation of each competence. This allows the bookmarks and stickers to be used even with groups, who are not familiar with 8 Key Competences.

The implementation of the Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre activities in Belarus was kindly supported by:

- The Delegation of the European Union to Belarus.
- The Association of Life-Long Learning and Enlightenment.
- The Governmental Institution of Supplementary Education in Zhodino.
- "Human Library" in Minsk.
- Regional educational institutions in Vitebsk, Brest, Mogilev, Rechitsa including communities and formal groups of people with visual disabilities in Gomel, SOS-village with young orphans in Minsk, centre of professional and social orientation of people with special physical and mental needs in Vitebsk.
- The Belarusian Republican Youth Union (BRSM).
- Belarusian youth organizations – RADA, Fialta, League, New Faces, Falanster, Third Sector, YMCA Brest, World without borders, UNESCO clubs.





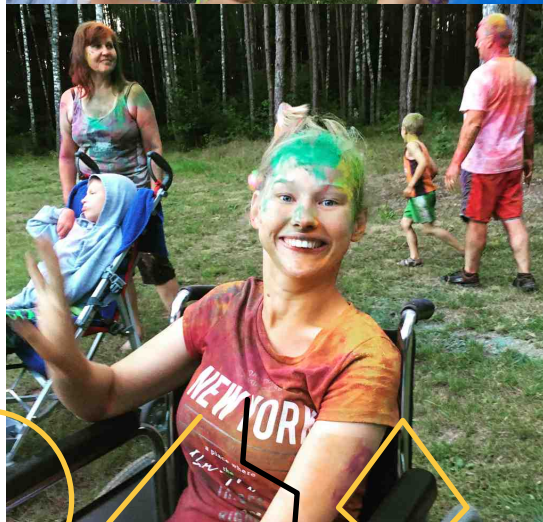
## Building Hope: using drama and sport in working with young people with disabilities

In August 2017 10 Irish and 20 Belarusians took part in a two-week project to build hope in disability awareness. Our team - because that's what we are! - came from very different social and educational backgrounds, with different abilities, but we came together and used our skills to make it all happen - successfully! Participants gained new skills and knowledge that can help them and their organisations. Everyone was welcome and there was lots of fun. After the project they took the knowledge and practices learned on this training course back to their home communities to use it in their work with young people with disabilities.

The training promoted disability awareness in youth work, and in general health and well-being of young people. We also enhanced international and development cooperation through sport, drama and other non-formal education methods.

Co-organiser: Office of Initiatives  
Promotion, Minsk: [www.ngo-oip.by](http://www.ngo-oip.by)

ZOOM EAST



## Інфармацыйны цэнтр праграмы Эразмус+ Моладзь у Беларусі

У перыяд з ліпеня па снежань 2017 года прыярытэты Інфацэнтра праграмы Эразмус+ Моладзь у Беларусі былі наступнымі:

1. Ідэнтыфікацыя патрэбаў і чаканняў беларускіх моладзевых арганізацый, якія ўжо ўдзельнічалі ці збіраюцца ўдзельнічаць у праграме Эразмус+ Моладзь.
2. Уключэнне ў праекты праграмы Эразмус+ Моладзь моладзі з уразлівых груп.
3. Фокус на кампетэнцыях, якія можна набыць у межах праектаў праграмы Эразмус+ Моладзь.

У межах **1-га прыярытэта** Інфармацыйны цэнтр арганізаваў сустрэчу 13 беларускіх моладзевых арганізацый і сабраў іх патрэбы і чаканні, якія былі выкарыстаны ў якасці базавых пры арганізацыі мерапрыемстваў. Асноўны фокус быў зроблены на вызначэнне якасных зменаў, якія, па меркаванню арганізацый, неабходны ў беларускім кантэксце. У якасці прыклада такіх якасных зменаў можна прывесці наступныя:

- для моладзевай палітыкі: фокус на моладзь з уразлівых груп;

- для моладзі: крэатыўныя і цікавыя метадыкі інфармавання;
- для арганізацый: кансультацыі і трэнінгі для рэгіянаў.

У межах **2-га прыярытэта** Інфармацыйны цэнтр стварыў сетку маладых мультыплікатараў і мультыплікатарак, якія здольныя ладзіць інфармацыйныя сустрэчы для рэгіянальных удзельнікаў і ўдзельніц і тыя у розных сацыяльных становішчах. На 2 трэнінгах мультыплікатары і мультыплікатаркі атрымалі неабходныя веды аб праграме Эразмус+ Моладзь, аб тым, якія бонусы атрымоўваюць удзельнікі і ўдзельніцы, а таксама арганізацыі, і як распавядаць аб гэтым, выкарыстоўваючы метады нефармальнай адукацыі.

За 3 месяцы працы мультыплікатары і мультыплікатаркі арганізавалі 10 сустрэч, у большасці у рэгіёнах (Жодзіна, Віцебск, Брэст, Магілёў, Рэчыца, Гомель), у якіх удзельнічала 166 чалавек.

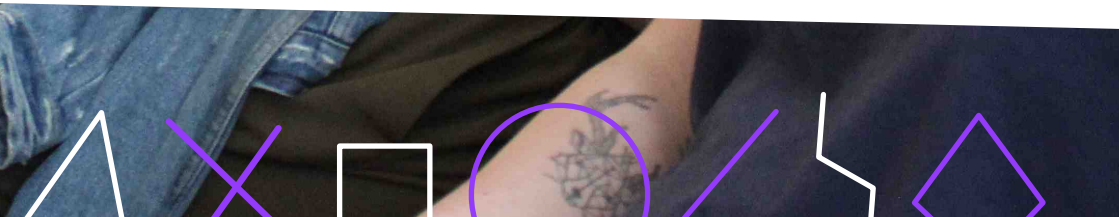
Што датычыцца **3-га прыярытэта**, Інфармацыйны цэнтр распрацаваў легка зразумелы дызайн для налэпак і закладак, каб выкарыстоўваць іх на мерапрыемствах з метаі прэзентацыі патэнцыйных бонусаў і кампетэнцый, якія можна набыць у межах праектаў праграмы Эразмус+ Моладзь.





# GEORGIA

## საქართველო



## Erasmus+ Youth information in Sakartvelo

The Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre of Georgia has operated since July 2017 under the NGO Youth Association DRONI. The main aim of the Info Centre is to provide information for young people and organizations about the Erasmus+ Youth Programme. Representatives of the Info Center have actively been conducting info meetings in the capital city and in the regions of Georgia, for young people, NGOs, municipalities and other stakeholders, giving information about:

- Erasmus+ programme;
- it's philosophy, aims and objectives;
- youth mobilities, trainings, seminars, job shadowings, etc;
- volunteering opportunities (also known as EVS);
- useful links and specific steps for getting started with the programme;
- cross-sectoral cooperation, how to get state institutions involved in the program;

Information meetings and consultations are conducted by an experienced team, who have at least 5 years experience in operating international youth programmes.

### What we do?

The Info Centre has fixed calendar for the meetings, however in the case of the requests from the regions, there always will be possibility to add additional visits. For 2018, its planned to conduct 2 info-meetings at the beginning of each month, at Youth Association DRONI's facilities, one day for young people as individuals and the other for the representatives of the organizations. We aim to promote the beneficiaries of the Erasmus+ youth programme among young people, organizations and municipalities, by showing them the advantages and gains they can have after participating in the programme.



In addition, the Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre tries to spread the information around the country, visit and introduce Erasmus+ opportunities in many different regions, with a focus on young people living outside the capital city who often don't know what opportunities they have. In 2017 representatives of the centre visited 15 different cities to hold info meetings and give presentations. During 2018 Info Centre has been invited to visit more places of Georgia and introduce the Programme in different youth centres and communities. We are getting more and more invitations from diverse profile organizations and centres to visit them. We are happy that interest is increasing among so many different stakeholders.

In addition the Info Centre opens two days a week, so that people can come to the office and get face to face consultations and detailed information about the topic they are interested in. The most popular subjects of these consultations are volunteering opportunities for young people, KA2 and EVS accreditation for the organizations. Personal consultations can also be arranged for a different time, if required. This is not the only way people can get answers to their questions. Consultations are also available on the phone, via Skype or a Facebook.

Audience at the meetings are usually young people aged between

13-30, representatives of different NGOs, municipalities, etc. In most cases they have very general or obscure knowledge about the programme, not knowing which countries can participate, what the funding rules are, age limits and so on. After presenting the general information about the programme, they are introduced to the links, by which, they can find partners, upcoming training courses and projects, find volunteering opportunities, etc. And finally, of course there is a time for the questions which were not answered during the introduction or needs to be specified.

### How we do?

What's important, is that we talk from our experience, we are also the ones who have participated in the programme and feel impassioned to promote this chance among others. We want every young person to know that it's not only people with high education or experience who have opportunities, but that all are welcome and eligible to participate in the programme, that it's for them to develop professionally and personally, to bring a change in the society.

We try to do our best to attract people's attention by creating eye-catching, user-friendly and youth-friendly designs. Also by creating



infographics and translating videos, from where people can instantly get information without attending the meetings or consultations.

### Success story!

I'm Nana Dabrundashvili, 22 years old from Georgia. I'm from a family with average income but I still managed to graduate from university with great marks. After entering the labour market, I went through a difficult phase. One day I

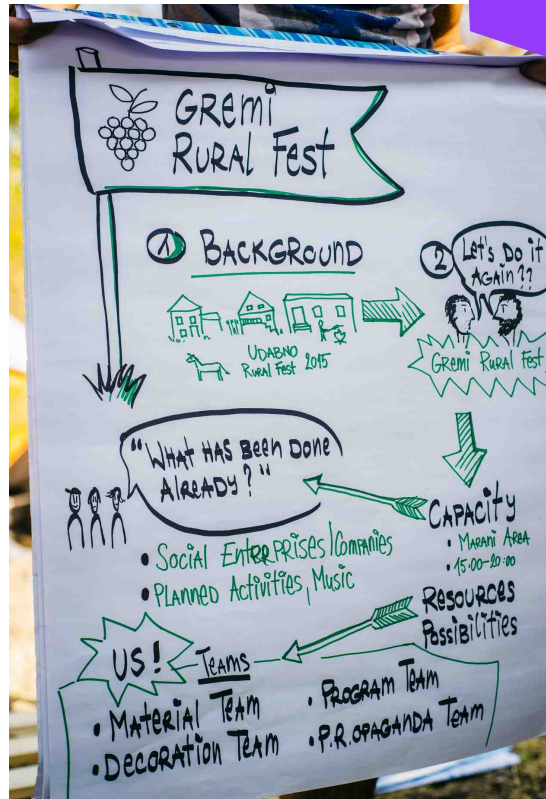
came across the info meeting of some youth programme, which I later became part of. This EVS project gave me the opportunity to manage documents, manage my time and resources independently and now I am in Lithuania volunteering for 12 months. I really like how the structure works and I'll always be grateful to this one presentation which turned my life upside down.

## Youth Exchange "Countryside Magic"

The main aim of the youth exchange "Countryside Magic" was to support the development of the rural areas by creating a successful cultural and entrepreneurial rural event in Gremi. The participants created and organized "Gremi Rural Fest", which focussed on the promotion of social enterprises in rural areas. The activity involved the TEMI community, which is a place for socially vulnerable people.

Our movie, that you need to see: [www.youtu.be/tZuFaXOHfEo](http://www.youtu.be/tZuFaXOHfEo)

Co-organiser: DRONI, Tbilisi:  
[www.droni.org](http://www.droni.org)





ZOOM EAST



ZOOM EAST

## ახალგაზრდული გაცვლა "Countryside Magic"

2017 წლის სექტემბერს საქართველომ უმასპინძლა ახალგაზრდულ გაცვლას "Countryside Magic", სადაც თავი მოიყარა 33-მა ახალგაზრდამ 6 სხვადასხვა ქვეყნიდან (სომხეთი, დანია, ესტონეთი, საქართველო, იტალია და ნორვეგია). პროექტის მონაწილეები გრემის სათემო დასახლებაში, კარვებში ცხოვრობდნენ.

მთლიანი პროექტი ძალიან საინტერესო იყო თავისი იდეითა და აქტივობებით. გარდა იმისა, რომ მონაწილეებმა მიიღეს თეორიული ცოდნა სოციალური სანრამოების მუშაობასა და არაფორმალური განათლების მეთოდებზე, ახალგაზრდები ადგილობრივებს რთველსა და ყურძნის დანურვაში ეხმარებოდნენ. უცხოელებისთვის ეს ახალი გამოცდილება იყო, რაც დაეხმარათა გაეანალიზებინათ, რამდენად რთულია ასეთი სამუშაო და ამავდროულად, რამდენად სასიამოვნო და სახალისოა, იყო თემის ნაწილი.

პროექტის დასკვნითი აქტივობა კრურალური ფესტივალის ორგანიზება იყო, რომელიც იქვე, გრემის თემში გაიმართა. მონაწილეებმა დაგეგმეს სხვადასხვა გასართობი ღონისძიება, მოინვიეს ადგილობრივი სოციალური სანარმოებზე სხვადასხვა რეგიონიდან, მუსიკოსები, მისულ სტუმრებს ასწავლიდნენ თავიანთ ნაციონალურ ცეკვებს. ფესტივალის სტუმრებს ჰქონდათ შანსი დამტკბარიყვნენ ფოლკლორული მუსიკით, დაეგემოვნებინათ ადგილობრივი წარმოების ღვინო და საკვები, ჩართულიყვნენ სხვადასხვა მცირე საგანმანათლებლო და გასართობ აქტივობაში, რომლებიც ფესტივალის საერთაშორისო მოხალისეების მიერ იყო დაგეგმილი. ფერად-ფერად მორთულობა, სხვადასხვა ქვეყნის ცეკვები, მუსიკა და სტუმრების ჩამოსვლით გახარებული თემის მაცხოვრებლები ძალიან სასიამოვნო გარემოს ქმნიდა კარგი დროის გასატარებლად.

გრემის სოფელში არსებული თემი 50 ფიზიკურად და მენტალურად უნარშეზღუდულ ადამიანს აერთიანებს, რომელთა უმეტესობაც ობოლთა თავშესაფარშია გაზრდილი. მსგავს ფესტივალები, ძალიან კარგ შესაძლებლობაა თემში მაცხოვრებლების განვითარებისა და გართობისთვის, ისევე როგორც ჩასული სტუმრებისთვის. დამატებითი ინფორმაცია თემის შესახებ იხილეთ ბმულზე: [temi-community.org](http://temi-community.org)





# MOLDOVA



## Boosting Erasmus+ information

Since July 2017, the Training and Development Institute "MilleniUM" has managed the activity of the Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Moldova. The goal of the Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Moldova is to inform young people and youth organizations about the Erasmus+ Youth programme and provide support for the qualitative implementation of projects, thus, the following promotion and information activities have been carried out.

Launching the Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Moldova as part of the International Youth Day by organizing a press conference and participating in the most grandiose event organized for young people on the occasion of the International Youth Day - Youth Festival in Chisinau. There we distributed information materials, offered consultations and held a workshop where youth organisations were provided with details about Erasmus+ programme opportunities and the role of the Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Moldova.

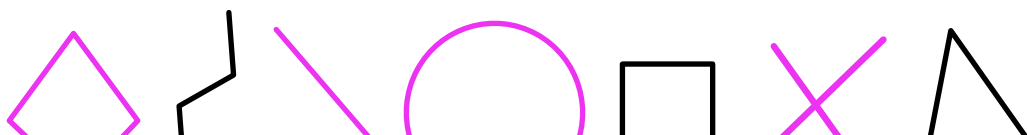
We participated in various events organized for NGOs in Moldova, such as the Civic Fest, the NGO Forum, the National Youth Organizations Conference, etc. where non-

governmental organizations were informed about the Info Centre activities and the opportunities of the Erasmus+ programme.

We started a fruitful collaboration with the Erasmus+ National Office in Moldova, and together we organized the Erasmus+ Info Day campaign, through which we had working visits to Chisinau, Comrat, Balti, Cahul, where we met and informed young people about the opportunities of the Erasmus+ programme, describing both on the academic mobility component and the mobility of young people.

In the autumn of 2017, the Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Moldova organized a "Welcome" Training Course for youth organizations wishing to be involved in the programme but who did not have experience in this field. During the training, the participants learned about Erasmus+ Youth components, as well as how Moldovan organizations can participate in projects.

For young people and youth workers who already have experience of participating in Erasmus+ Youth projects, we have organized a photo contest "What is plus in my Erasmus+ Youth mobility experience". Ex-participants in Erasmus+ projects sent pictures of the activities they attended and described the experience they had and the benefits of such





participation. People who participated in the contest also benefited from a "Life after Youth Mobility Projects" training. A surprise outcome of the contest was the creation of a 2018 calendar with the most successful photos submitted to the contest. The photo contest, as well as the training of the participants in the contest, was aimed at creating a network of ex-Erasmus+ Youth participants and initiating collaboration within a network of multipliers that will promote Erasmus+ Youth opportunities, ways of involvement and benefits.

### Perspective for 2018

During 2018, the activity of Erasmus + Youth Info Center in Moldova is focused on building the capacity of youth organizations to write projects, identifying international partners and engaging in Erasmus+ projects to provide Moldovan young people and youth

workers mobility opportunities. For this purpose, in addition to the support provided by SALTO EECA, we have the support of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research of the Republic of Moldova for the implementation of the project "Promotion of Erasmus+: Youth in Action programme".

The aim of the project is to promote Erasmus+: Youth as an opportunity for the international mobility of young people and youth workers in the Republic of Moldova. As activities, we plan to build a long-term Training Course for Trainers, based on the model of the Training for Trainers for Erasmus+: Youth projects organized by the Erasmus+ National Agencies and the SALTO Resource Centres network. In the training, 20 youth trainers will develop their skills according to the European Training Strategy Competence Model. Subsequently, these trainers will carry out training activities for Moldovan youth organizations on the Erasmus+ programme.



At the end of 2018, we plan to have:

- 20 trained trainers in non-formal education, who will develop their skills according to the European Training Strategy Competence Model;
- Over 60 youth organizations who have been informed about Erasmus+ Youth opportunities and have the capacity to be involved in youth and youth workers mobility projects within the Erasmus+: Youth in Action programme;
- About 3,000 young people who have been informed about the opportunities of Erasmus+: Youth in Action.

healthy, people- and animal-friendly, as well as ready for adoption.

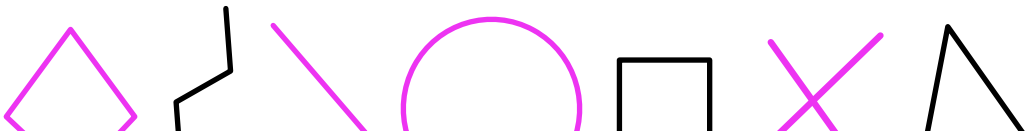
The main tasks of Arancha were:

- to take care of the dogs in the LOIZ shelter,
- to play and to communicate with dogs (under supervision of the professional animal caretaker);
- to take them out for walks in the neighbourhood park area;
- to work together with an experienced animal caretaker and get functional help;
- to clean and take care of the places where the animals stay;
- to feed the animals;
- to do small repairs.

Co-organiser: The association for the protection of animals "LOIZ", Anenii Noi.

## EVS project: Make a step forward

The Association for the Protection of Animals "LOIZ" is a non-profit organization operating a rescue center for homeless animals "The Island of Hope". From August 2016, for 12 months, the organisation invited a Belgian volunteer, Arancha Ferrer de la Cruz, to help with rescuing stray dogs from the harsh city streets and finding them new homes. International volunteers are integrated into regular work of the Centre helping animals to be



## Erasmus+ Youth Info Centru

Din iulie 2017, Institutul de Instruire în Dezvoltare „MilleniuM” gestionează Erasmus+ Youth Info Centru în Moldova. Scopul Erasmus+ Youth Info Centru în Moldova este de a informa tinerii și organizațiile de tineret despre programul Erasmus+ Youth și oferi suport în implementarea calitativă a proiectelor.

În anul 2017, activitatea noastră a fost axată pe informarea tinerilor și organizațiilor de tineret despre deschiderea Erasmus+ Youth Info Centru în Moldova și promovarea vizibilității programului Erasmus+: Youth in Action. Astfel au fost desfășurate următoarele de activități de promovare și informare:

Lansarea Erasmus+ Youth Info Centru în Moldova cu ocazia Zilei Internaționale a Tineretului prin organizarea Conferinței de presă și participarea la cel mai grandios eveniment organizat pentru tineri cu ocazia Zilei Internaționale a Tineretului – Festivalul Tineretului, în cadrul căruia s-au distribuit materiale informaționale, s-au oferit consultații și s-a desfășurat un workshop unde organizațiile de tineret au aflat detalii despre oportunitățile programului Erasmus+ și rolul Erasmus+ Youth Info Centru în Moldova.

Am participat la diverse evenimente organizate pentru ONG-urile din Moldova, precum Civic Fest, Forumul ONG, Conferința Națională a Organizațiilor de Tineret, etc. în cadrul cărora organizațiile non-guvernamentale au fost informate despre activitatea Info Centru-lui și oportunitățile programului Erasmus+.

Am inițiat o colaborare fructuoasă cu Oficiul Național Erasmus+ din Moldova, și împreună cu ei au fost organizată campania Erasmus+ Info Day, prin intermediul căreia am avut vizite de lucru în orasele Chisinau, Comrat, Balti, Cahul, unde ne-am întâlnit cu tineretul studios și iam informat despre oportunitățile programului Erasmus+ atât pe componenta mobilitate academică, cât și pe componenta mobilitatea tinerilor.

În toamna anului 2017, Erasmus+ Youth Info Centru în Moldova a organizat un curs de instruire “Welcome” pentru

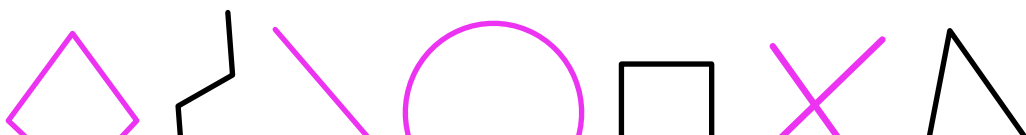


organizațiile de tineret care doresc să se implice în program, dar nu au experiență în această domeniu. În cadrul training-ului participanții au învățat despre programul Erasmus+: Youth in Action, ce reprezintă proiectele de mobilitate a tinerilor și lucrătorilor de tineret, precum și cum organizațiile din Moldova pot să se participe la proiecte.

Pentru tinerii și lucrătorii de tineret care deja au experiență de participare la proiecte Erasmus+: Youth in Action, am organizat un concursul foto „What is plus in my Erasmus+ Youth mobility Experience”. Ex-participanții la proiecte Erasmus+ au trimis poze de la activitățile la care au participat și au descris experiența care au avut și care au fost beneficiile participării sale. Persoanele care s-au înregistrat la concurs, au beneficiat și de o instruire „Life after Youth Mobility Projects”. Surpriza în urma concursului a fost crearea Calendarului pentru anul 2018 în care sunt incluse cele mai reușite fotografii depuse la Concurs. Concursul foto, precum și instruirea participanților la concurs au fost realizate cu scopul de a crea o rețea a ex-participanților la proiectele Erasmus+ Youth și a iniția o colaborare în cadrul unei rețele de multiplicatori care vor promova oportunitățile programului Erasmus+ Youth in Action, despre modalitățile de implicare și beneficiile acestuia.

Pentru anul 2018, activitatea Erasmus+ Youth Info Centru în Moldova este axată pe consolidarea capacităților organizațiilor de tineret în scriere de proiecte, identificare de parteneri internaționali și implicare în proiecte Erasmus+ pentru a oferi oportunități de mobilitate a tinerilor și lucrătorilor de tineret tuturor doritorilor din Republica Moldova. În acest scop, pe lângă suportul oferit de SALTO EECA, avem și susținerea Ministerului Educației, Culturii și Cercetării din Republica Moldova pentru implementarea proiectului „Promovarea programului Erasmus+: Youth in Action”.

Scopul proiectului este promovarea programului Erasmus+: Youth in Action ca oportunitate pentru mobilitatea internațională a tinerilor și lucrătorilor de tineret din Republica Moldova. În calitate de activități, planificăm să realizăm a un Curs de lung durată în Formare de Formatori, după modelul Training of Trainers for European Erasmus+ Youth projects realizat anual de către Agențiile Naționale Erasmus+ și rețeaua de centre de resurse SALTO. În cadrul Formării de Formatori, 20 formatori în domeniul tineret care își vor dezvolta competențele sale conform Setului European de Competențe pentru Formatori. Ulterior acești formatori vor desfășura activități de instruire pentru organizațiile de tineret din Moldova privind programul Erasmus+ cu un accent sporit asupra implicării în proiecte de mobilitate a tinerilor și lucrătorilor de tineret.



## RUSSIA



## Spreading the word about Erasmus+ Youth

Key events held in Russia in 2017 to inform about the Erasmus+ Programme:

**Pecha-kucha in September in Nizhny Novgorod.** This interesting format allowed participants to listen to 5 successful stories from ex-EVS volunteers and participants of youth exchanges and mobilities of youth workers. Each story/presentation lasted no longer than 6 minutes 40 seconds, so it was concise and clear. There was also time for questions and answers. Participants were inspired by stories from EVS projects in Germany, Turkey and Russia, a bilateral youth exchange between Russia and Italy, and a training course on using online tools for NGOs in Slovakia.

**A seminar for newcomers to the Erasmus+ Youth in October in Nizhny Novgorod.** The seminar gathered together 9 people from newly accredited organizations and organizations from 5 different cities in Russia wishing to receive accreditation. During 2 days, participants explored in details the process for receiving accreditation and running EVS projects. The accreditation procedure, project application, granting rules, financial matters, support of volunteer, rights

and responsibilities of all sides involved into project - all these questions were thoroughly discussed. EVS volunteers from Hungary and Poland were also invited to share their experience with the participants, as well as ex-EVS volunteer from Russia in Finland. Coordinators who are just beginning their journey into the world of EVS coordination had many practical questions answered.

### Feedback from participant:

My name is Pavel and I'm from Tyumen State University, Center of International Education. Our experience with Erasmus+ is quite extensive in the formal education sector, and we would now like to develop non-formal activities. Volunteering is of particular interest. Since students have to be ready for challenges of 21st century not only in learning environment, but in life in general, their competences need to be developed and we believe that Erasmus+ Youth will greatly help with this.

**Forum "Your plus with Erasmus+" in November in Moscow.** This informational event was synced with an ex-EVS event organized by SALTO EECA for ex-volunteers from Russia and Belarus. The forum gathered around 70 young people together, along with representatives of youth organizations who were keen on learning more about the Programme. The forum consisted of 2 parts - it started off with a quest with 5 stations, where participants





learnt basic information about key aspect of the Programme and were then required to complete a small task to go to the next station. Those who successfully went through all stations took part in a lottery afterwards. The second part consisted of 5 inspiring speeches from EVS volunteers, participants of youth exchanges and EVS coordinator. During the event all participants had the opportunity to ask ex-volunteers theoretical and practical questions and share experiences.

Living library event "Opportunities of Erasmus+ Youth" in December in Saint-Petersburg.

The living library event allowed participants to talk personally to ex-EVS volunteers, as well as EVS coordinators and current foreign EVS volunteers doing their projects in Russia. In total there were over 50 participants and 12 "books" who were sharing their experience with them. Sessions originally scheduled for 30 minutes often lasted for several hours, giving participants the chance to talk to 4-5 books during the event. There was a lot of space for personal communication and answering all questions and sharing stories. Also, there was the opportunity for organisations and young people to consult with representatives of Erasmus+ Youth in Russia for organizations and for young people.

Feedback of participant:

The living library event really inspired me because I had a chance to listen to amazing stories of girls who did their volunteering project abroad. I always thought that it's very hard to do, and I would have to be very brave to do it, but after this event it seems very doable and I'll do my best to become a volunteer soon!. Liubov, participant from Saint-Petersburg.

During the year there was also several presentations during events of partners in Moscow, Tomsk, and in Rostov-on-Don via Skype. Along with these events, 40 consultations with organizations and young people played an important role. Three webinars which were recorded and are available online enhanced the Russian organisations knowledge of the Erasmus+ programme.



## Most wanted stay connected: MOST

Our youth exchange combined learning and teaching, entertainment and responsibility, localism and globalism, modernity and tradition. The whole period of 10 days between 27th July and 6th August 2017 was divided into 3 parts: learning - empower, preparation - inspire, teaching - create. **Learning:** to feel as a participant in the camp, to learn from master classes (control of segway, gyroscope, mono-wheel, ATV, drones, learn robotics, play on ethnic drums, etc.). **Preparation:** command-forming training and educational training on how to conduct master classes. And finally the **teaching:** the participants personally tried to play the role of a facilitator, coach for children. Together with other young kids they chose what to master: Portuguese or German, playing guitar or origami, etc.

MOST youth exchange united 16 young people (17-23 years) and 4 leaders at the site of the international innovation camp in south Russia. This place was chosen not accidentally: 300 children aged 7-17 years, 70 youth leaders from 21 countries join the camp every year.

Informal education is the basis of the camp. When youth are forced to learn, the creative potential of the individual is suppressed. The goal of our project was to create an environment in which personality, creativity, and individuality flourish. The advantage of this technique has been proved in practice over 6 years. The camp allows the creative potential of the individual to be revealed, not just to gain knowledge, but also to apply it in real life.

Co-organiser: International Center Falcogroup, Krasnodar:  
[www.falcogroup.org](http://www.falcogroup.org)



## Информационная работа по программе Erasmus+ Youth в России

За первые 6 месяцев информационной работы по программе Erasmus+ Youth, было оказано более 40 консультаций заинтересованным в участии в программе организациям и молодым людям - лично, по скайпу или телефону, по электронной почте. В ходе информационных мероприятий в разных городах России (Нижний Новгород, Москва, Санкт-Петербург, Томск, Ростов-на-Дону) более 350 человек узнали о программе, о том, как принять участие, стать волонтером или участником молодежного обмена. Были использованы интересные форматы: печка-куча, "живая библиотека", квест. Помимо этого, мы приняли участие в информационном дне Erasmus+

в Москве, а также сделали презентации в Томске и Ростове-на-Дону. У организаций-новичков в программе была возможность принять участие в семинаре, в ходе которого были разобраны все практические и теоретические вопросы координирования проектов в рамках Erasmus+ Youth.

Отзывы участников семинара:

Erasmus+

21-

Erasmus+ Youth

ZOOM EAST



Помимо информационных мероприятий и консультаций, было проведено 3 вебинара на разные тематики, как для молодых людей, так и для организаций. Вебинары были записаны и доступны для просмотра онлайн.

Евгения Слав, EVS координатор петербургской организации "Шаг навстречу" рассказывает о своем опыте взаимодействия:

Erasmus+ Youth

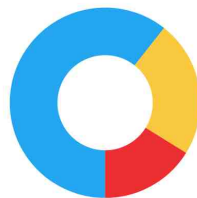
Youth

Erasmus+

2017

EVS.

## КОНСУЛЬТАЦИИ



60%



23%



16%



## ВЕБИНАРЫ



**Для Молодежи:**  
Европейская  
Волонтерская  
Служба (EVS)

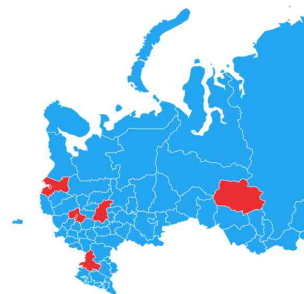


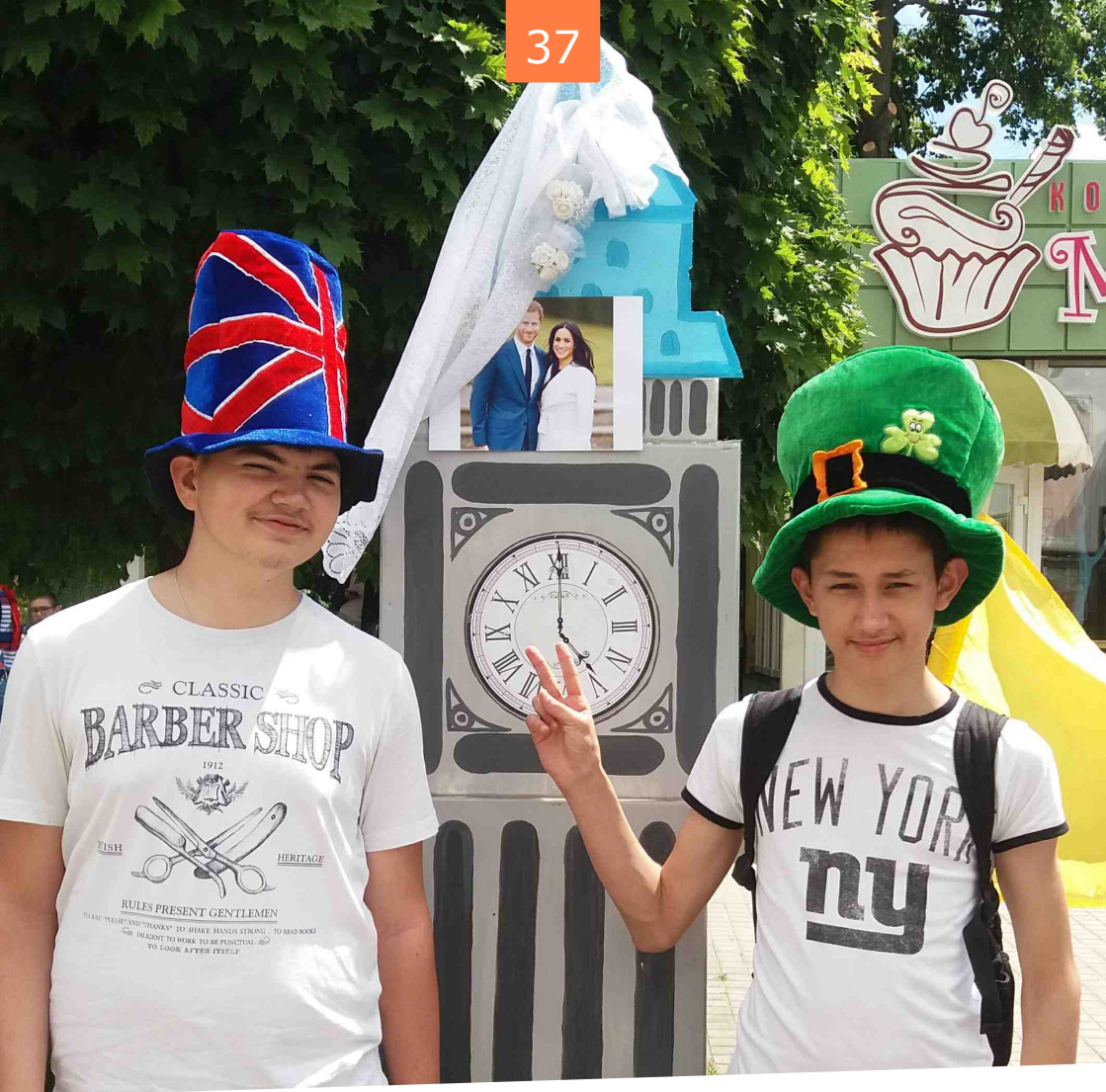
**Для Молодежи:**  
Молодежные  
Обмены



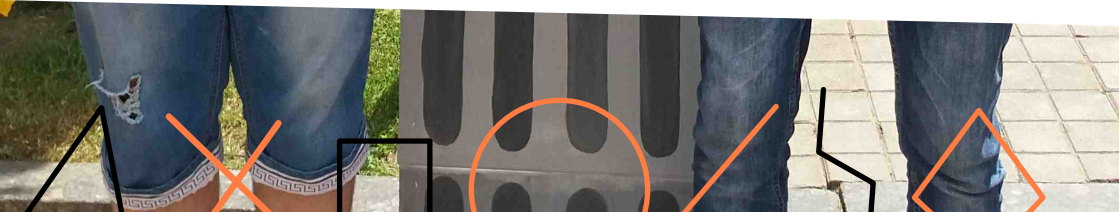
**Для организаций:**  
EVS аккредитации и  
мобильность  
молодежных  
работников

## МЕРОПРИЯТИЯ





UKRAINE



## Taking a role in Erasmus+ Youth information

The Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Ukraine was opened in June 2017 and is operated by the organisation "Center for Euroinitiatives" which is located in Sumy. Even though the Info Centre is physically located in the eastern part of the country, its activities take place through all over Ukraine and on-line.

Ukraine is the largest country in the Eastern Partnership region with the largest population. But unfortunately, it's not the most active in Erasmus+ Youth programme. Dedicated to our mission, we would like to show Ukrainian youth organisations and young people all of the different

opportunities which are available for them. Moreover, we would like to help to increase the quality of the projects carried out with the participation of Ukrainian organisations.

Our Info Centre provides consultations and support to organizations in Ukraine, promotes dissemination of best practice and cooperation in implementing youth projects within the programme's framework.

### What we do?

Our main activities are events (presentations, "living libraries", meetings etc.), webinars, consultations (face-to-face, phone, Skype, messenger), and the Facebook page.



In the second half of 2017, we organized 11 live events for over 800 people — young people, youth workers, NGO leaders, stakeholders — from Kyiv, Sumy, Kharkiv, Lviv and Vinnitsa. The most remarkable of them was “Living Libraries” where people were “books” and “reading” meant live communication.

In 2017 the Info Centre organized 3 webinars in which we explained to the online audience the Erasmus+ programme and its key actions. Webinars are open to all interested people and we are continuing them in 2018. Recordings from previous webinars are available on [www.facebook.com/EPlus.Ukraine](http://www.facebook.com/EPlus.Ukraine).

The Info Centre also provides consultations for everyone who is interested in the Erasmus+ programme. It's easy to get a consultation – just contact our office via any convenient mean: email, phone, Facebook, Skype or simply pay us a visit in Sumy. The Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Ukraine is open for cooperation and requests, so if you have any questions, by all means please contact us!

All the recent updates on the youth component of the Erasmus+ programme, news, announcements, useful links, tips, stories can be found on our Facebook page. **Please follow [www.fb.com/EPlus.Ukraine](http://www.fb.com/EPlus.Ukraine)** to be always up to date!

## Blog contest

Our Info Centre does its best to spread the information about Erasmus+ opportunities. However, as a young person you may still have some questions and even fears. In this case, learning how somebody else deals with the issues would help a lot!

From September till October 2017 we organized a blog contest among ex-participants of Erasmus+ volunteering projects. We invited Ukrainians who have been volunteers abroad or foreigners who were hosted in Ukraine to participate in the blog contest. From September till November each week we posted a link with information about one blog. Our followers could vote with their “likes” or comments on the post. 13 bloggers participated in the contest. Each of them was a unique piece filled with personal experiences, impressions, tips, and represented different types of content: videos, photos, stories.

The winner was Marta Pryriz, a Ukrainian girl who took part in an EVS project in Poland. If you are looking for inspirations — check her page! Links to all the blogs are available on the Facebook page of the Info Centre.

We see the main outcome of the contest as being another way of promoting international volunteering and Erasmus+ Youth opportunities



among Ukrainians. Also, we believe that sharing personal experiences about volunteering abroad could motivate young people to take part in the programme in the future.

### Living library

The "Living Library" is a place where you can hear the real stories that inspire and help overcome stereotypes and fears.

Over 200 people came to read "Live Books" in the "Living Library" in Sumy on September 30, 2017. Each "Book" was a unique story that encouraged new achievements within the programme. There were eight "Books", who shared personal experiences in organizing and taking part in Erasmus+ youth projects.

As for me, every new visit to the "Living Library" is a new opportunity to motivate myself for new victories. I have been interested in the Erasmus + Programme for a long time and today I have received a new piece of information that would help me to become closer to Europe, said Eugene Scherbak, a "reader" of the "Library".

Within the framework of the "Library", the "Books" talked about the opportunities and stereotypical assumptions about the programme. The "Books" were ordinary people who took part in projects themselves and expressed the

desire to tell their observations to others.

Anna Yaremenko shared her feelings as a "Live Book": Being a "Live Book" is a very interesting experience. This is the second time when I have taken this role. The fact that "readers" come really wanting to "read" your book, learn as much as possible, understand the essence of the "Book" is very interesting. The format of "Living Library" is great because I, by being a "Book", can answer any questions of "readers", and they do not have to think and understand the content themselves. I very much hope that my story and my life experience will be a motivation for someone and will positively affect their lives.

In addition to enthusiastic stories, a formal presentation of the Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Ukraine was also held.

To my mind, the Erasmus+ Youth Info Centre in Ukraine is another integration step of Ukrainian society into the European Union, said Olexandr Pohlyay, a visitor of the "Living Library". Many programs, exchanges, and projects are designed to strengthen European society. That is why the Centre will contribute to the development of Ukraine-EU relations.





## Short-term group EVS: Zoom Your Summer

The major idea of the EVS project "Zoom Your Summer" was to engage European youth into organising summer schoolyard, tent and stationary camps for local youth on leadership, European values and active citizenship. Our volunteers provided fun, cultural and educational experience to participants of summer camps as well as information about different European cultures. As a result solidarity and cross border relationships between Ukrainian youth and their European neighbours, and respect for the diversity were developed. Integral part of the project was to learn about present realities of youth, their dilemmas and ambitions.

ZOOM EAST



Co-organiser: The Center for  
Euroinitiatives from Sumy:  
[www.fb.com/CEIsumy](http://www.fb.com/CEIsumy)



## Erasmus+ Youth. Інформаційний центр в Україні

Erasmus+ Youth Інформаційний центр в Україні був відкритий в червні 2017 року громадською організацією "Центр євроніціатив". Офіс інформаційного центру знаходиться в місті Суми, але ми проводимо заходи по всій Україні та, звичайно, онлайн.

Україна — це найбільша країна Східного Партнерства з великою кількістю населення. Але, на жаль, вона не займає лідерських позицій в регіоні щодо участі в програмі Erasmus+ Youth. Ми вважаємо за свою місію показати українським молодіжним організаціям та молодим людям всі ті можливості, які для них доступні, а також підвищити якість проектів, що реалізуються за участю українських організацій.

Інформаційний центр надає консультації та підтримує організації в Україні, поширює найкращі практики та сприяє співпраці у реалізації молодіжних проектів в рамках програми.

Наші основні види діяльності це різні події (презентації, "живі бібліотеки", зустрічі, тощо), вебінари, консультації (наживо, засобами телефону та Інтернету), активна Facebook сторінка.

В другій половині 2017 роки ми організували 11 заходів для понад 800 учасників — молодих людей, молодіжних працівників, громадських активістів, стейкхолдерів — з Києва, Сум, Харкова, Львова та Вінниці. Найбільш визначними з яких були "живі бібліотеки", де "книжками" виступали люди, а "читання" означало живе спілкування.

У 2017 Інформаційний центр провів 3 вебінари, на яких ми розповідали про програму та її ключові напрямки. Вебінари відкриті для всіх зацікавлених, і ми, звичайно, плануємо їх продовжувати у 2018 році. Відео та матеріали з попередніх матеріалів доступні на сторінці [www.facebook.com/EPlus.Ukraine](http://www.facebook.com/EPlus.Ukraine).

Інформаційний центр надає консультації для всіх, хто цікавиться програмою. Отримати консультацію дуже просто — лише зв'яжіться з нами будь-яким зручним для вас способом: email, телефон, Facebook, Skype або завітайте до нашого офісу.

Всі останні новини молодіжного компоненту програми ERASMUS+, оголошення, корисні посилання, поради, історії ви можете знайти на нашій Facebook сторінці. **Будь ласка, завітайте на [www.fb.com/EPlus.Ukraine](http://www.fb.com/EPlus.Ukraine), щоб завжди бути в курсі подій!**





SALTO EECA



## New volunteering programme! European Solidarity Corps

The European Solidarity Corps is a new European Union initiative which creates opportunities for young people to volunteer or work in projects that benefit communities and people around Europe. After completing a simple registration process, participants are selected to join a wide range of projects. These projects will be run by organisations which have been checked and authorised to run European Solidarity Corps projects (so called Quality Label, previous EVS accreditation).

The European Solidarity Corps is open to a wide range of organisations interested in running projects. These include governmental organisations, municipalities, non-governmental organisations and companies of all sizes, from big multinational corporations to a small NGO working in a local community. These organisations must run solidarity related projects.

The European Solidarity Corps is the pool of young people who register their interest to take part in solidarity-related projects, and who agree with and will uphold the

Mission and Principles of the European Solidarity Corps. When young person registers, their details will be held in the European Solidarity Corps system, and organisations will be able to search the database for people for their projects. Organisations will then ask selected participants to join these projects.

Young persons can register for the European Solidarity Corps when they are 17 years old, but cannot start a project until person turns 18. Participants must complete the European Solidarity Corps project before they turn 31. The volunteers must be legally residents in or have the nationality of one of the European Union Member States, or of the following countries: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Turkey, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia or one of the neighbouring countries of EU:

- Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia)
- Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine)
- South-Mediterranean countries (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia)
- Russian Federation

Young people from Eastern Partnership countries and Russian Federation can benefit from Volunteering Activities.



## European Solidarity Corps Volunteering activities

Volunteering is a solidarity activity that takes the form of a voluntary unpaid activity for a period of up to twelve months. It provides young people with the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of organisations in solidarity activities to the ultimate benefit of the communities within which the activities are carried out. As the main mechanism for promoting solidarity as a value, volunteering helps to overcome important societal challenges and addresses the needs of local communities. It also enables young people to acquire useful experience, skills and competences for their personal, educational, social, civic and professional development, thereby improving their employability and active citizenship.

Volunteering can take place in a broad range of areas, such as in the fields of environmental protection, climate change mitigation and greater social inclusion. It does not include activities that are part of curricula in formal education, vocational education and training systems and activities for emergency response, and must not interfere with the functioning of the labour market. Activities supported under volunteering must constitute a rich experience in a non-formal and informal learning context, which enhances young people's skills and competences.

Individual Volunteering is a full-time unpaid solidarity activity for a duration of 2 to 12 months. This type of solidarity activity provides young people with the opportunity to contribute to the daily work of organisations in solidarity activities to the ultimate benefit of the communities within which the activities are carried out. In duly justified cases, especially to encourage the participation of young people with fewer opportunities, volunteering activities of 2 weeks – 2 months can be accepted and implemented.

Volunteering teams are solidarity activities which allow teams of 10 to 40 participants coming from at least two different countries to volunteer together for a period of between 2 weeks and 2 months. Such solidarity activities could especially contribute to the inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities in the European Solidarity Corps. At least a quarter of the volunteers must come from abroad. Despite their shorter duration, these activities will be valuable both for the individuals and for the communities benefiting from this service.



**EUROPEAN  
SOLIDARITY  
CORPS**



## **Inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities in international youth cooperation**

One of the main fields of work of SALTO EECA is the development of measures and activities facilitating inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities in international youth cooperation. This topic has also been one of the priorities of consecutive Youth programmes of the European Commission, SALTO EECA since they began organised trainings focused on raising awareness and competences of youth workers in the field of inclusion. These activities inspired many partnerships and future projects, however, synergy among them was missing.

The launch of the Erasmus+ programme has provided an opportunity to develop our concepts related to inclusion. In 2014 a group of two SALTO resource centres: SALTO Inclusion and SALTO EECA, as well as three National Agencies of Erasmus+: Austrian, Finnish and Polish, started a long term cooperation "Inclusion in Eastern Partnership and Russia" with an aim of creating a coherent strategy for both regions. Our main doubts were whether the trainings we organized

reflected the reality and needs that the youth workers working with youth with fewer opportunities in Eastern Partnership (EaP) and Russia have. This is why we decided to start our work from consultations with experts (a round-table session on inclusion in EaP and Russia was organized in Tbilisi in October 2014), to provide a basis for a research on needs of youth workers and obstacles they are facing in their work. The results of the research gave us food for thoughts. First of all, it became clear that there are some significant differences in understanding of the terms "inclusion" and "youth with fewer opportunities" in the regions and in the definitions used by the European Commission and Erasmus+ documents. Most of the people in the Eastern Partnership countries and Russia associate fewer opportunities with physical, sensory and mental disabilities, while inclusion is treated as a synonym of integration. Another problem identified by our researchers was the lack of professionalism and knowledge among youth workers. This is partly caused by another problem of non-profit organisations: limited budgets of organisations, that do not have enough funds for professional development of their staff. The majority of organisations also need to deal with high fluctuation of employees.

More information about the study and the report is available at: [www.salto-youth.net/inclusioninEECA](http://www.salto-youth.net/inclusioninEECA)



What is more, local organisations that work with the same target groups often do not cooperate with each other, which affects not only the results of their work (lack of exchange of good practices, methods and support), but also limits the recognition of what they do at a local and national level. Finally, when it comes to international cooperation among youth organisations, one of the biggest barriers for youth workers identified by our researchers was the language barrier. Significant majority of training activities, as well as information about various grant programmes are in English, while the “lingua franca” of both regions is still Russian.

The Erasmus+ programme uses the definition of Inclusion specified in the Inclusion and Diversity Strategy: “Inclusion and diversity projects should have a positive impact on the situation of young people with fewer opportunities. These are young people who are at a disadvantage compared to their peers because they face one or more of the exclusion factors and obstacles below”. Inclusion and Diversity Strategy, European Commission Directorate General for Education and Culture, 2014, p. 7. The exclusion factors listed in the document are: disability, health problems, educational difficulties, cultural differences, as well as economical, social and geographical obstacles. The whole document is available at:

[www.salto-youth.net/aboutIDstrategy](http://www.salto-youth.net/aboutIDstrategy)

Taking all of the above issues into account we decided to focus on those we can influence. We needed to act in two directions: to promote inclusion and inclusive youth projects, and to be more inclusive in our interaction with the organisations that have limited capacities to get involved in international projects.

When it comes to the first approach, we decided to focus on raising competences of youth workers in the topic of inclusion through more tailored training activities. We focused not only on delivering training courses on the topic of inclusion, but also on boosting exchange of knowledge and experience among youth organisations. One very useful tool in this process were the facilitated study visits with elements of partnership building. So far we have organized two in the regions of the EaP: the first in Ukraine in 2016 called “Youth work reality in Ukraine” and the second in Moldova in 2018, with a special focus on youth work in rural areas. We also co-organised a study visit to Latvia, Estonia and Finland “Kopā – Üheskoos – Yhdessä – Вместе: Study Visit on Inclusion Practices” that took place in January 2018. The target groups and methods used varied from an activity to activity. We avoided being monothematic, trying to create a programme where everyone can find some useful experience for themselves. This is why during one study visit the



participants could meet organisations working with the Roma community, with youth with visual impairment and with young people from poor and marginalized neighbourhoods. These projects served many purposes: to learn new methods and new approaches, to get inspired, to meet future project partners (both within the group and in the organisations visited) and to get encouraged to start international cooperation. Participants were encouraged to think how Erasmus+ can help them in their activities. Some of them planned job shadowing in the organisations they had visited, while others discovered that they could involve international volunteers in their organisations and schools, and finally, many of them started planning youth exchanges and training activities with the people they met during study visits. These projects also brought some of the involved National Agencies and SALTOs closer together, inspiring them to create their own future projects.

When it comes to the training courses co-organised by SALTO EECA, we hosted and sent youth workers to several events, among them "Mobility Taster for Inclusion organisations new to Erasmus+" by SALTO Inclusion and Diversity and "Youth work in closed institutions" prepared by the Latvian NA. For 2019 more training courses of this nature are planned, as well as other events related to the topic of inclusion.

We also understood that by offering more information activities and trainings in other languages than English, we should be able to reach more young people and organisations. This is why, in cooperation with a few National Agencies from the Baltic States we have co-organised trainings for newcomers to Erasmus+ in Russian: "DIY: My first youth exchange" (Lviv, 2017), as well as a Russian language version of a training module of SALTO Inclusion and Diversity: "Mobility Taster for Inclusion organisations new to Erasmus+" (Odessa, 2018). There are plans for similar trainings in the future.

What is more, we have translated into Russian a publication "Inclusion from A to Z. A compass to international inclusion projects" created by SALTO ID, that explains the topic of inclusion and guides youth through stages of international youth activities, with focus on their inclusiveness.

More information about the Mobility Taster trainings:  
[www.salto-youth.net/mobilitytaster](http://www.salto-youth.net/mobilitytaster)

"Inclusion from A to Z. A compass to international inclusion projects" is available at:  
[www.salto-youth.net/inclusionatoz](http://www.salto-youth.net/inclusionatoz)





At the same time youth workers from EaP and Russia had a chance to participate in two short English courses that took place in Slovakia and were designed for organisations participating in international projects.

An important step towards raising visibility and accessibility of Erasmus+ in both regions was the creation of the network of Erasmus+ Info Centres in 2017. The Info Centres became responsible for promotional and information campaigns in local languages, run in various regions, and also via online tools. It allowed us to access those young people and organisations, who had previously been difficult to reach.

## ZOOM EAST

### Youth work against violent radicalisation

As a result of cooperation between the regional SALTO centres (SALTO EECA, SALTO Euromed and SALTO South East Europe), in 2016 an initiative started involving various National Agencies, SALTOs as well as EU-CoE Youth Partnership that focuses on prevention of violent radicalization and the role of youth work in this process "Youth work against violent radicalization". This project had two main aims. Firstly, to collect, analyze and present inspiring practice in the youth field all around Europe related to the prevention of violent radicalization. And secondly, to create a long-term



training strategy that would empower youth workers, but also other actors, working on this topic.

The research collected 20 examples of good practices from various Programme and Neighbouring countries, including two from Georgia. They addressed various types of extremism: political, politico-religious as well as single-issue extremism (motivated by one specific cause). In 2018 a report from this research was published based on the analysis of the youth policy of various countries, the collected practices and interviews with organisations and other various stakeholders implementing them. In the report there are listed several conclusions from the research – here we will mention only few of them, the whole report is available on the SALTO YOUTH website. First of all, it underlines the crucial role of youth work in prevention of violent radicalization, as developing competences of young people gives them more opportunities, better perspectives and a sense of control of their lives. Non-formal education also strengthens resilience to radical ideologies, by helping youth to develop critical thinking. The research underlines also importance of cooperation and peer-learning among youth organisations, as well as between the NGO sector and other actors active in a community.

More information about the whole project and activities related to it are available at:

[www.salto-youth.net/againstviolentradicalisation](http://www.salto-youth.net/againstviolentradicalisation)

The full report from the research “Youth work against violent radicalisation. Theory, concepts and primary prevention in practice” is available at:

[www.salto-youth.net/againstradicalisation\\_report](http://www.salto-youth.net/againstradicalisation_report)

Intuition leads to another conclusion that the topic of prevention of violent radicalization is closely linked to the topic of inclusion. Young people who feel discriminated or marginalized are more likely to join radical movements, hence an inclusive approach towards them can play an important role in prevention of such decisions.

Taking into account the results of the research, the institutions involved in cooperation within the project “Youth work against violent radicalization” developed several activities with the aim of developing the competences of youth workers, enhance exchange of know-how and support cooperation between various organisations and institutions involved in work on the topic of prevention of extremism. The first activity was a conference that took place in Malta in November 2017, which gathered almost 100 youth workers,



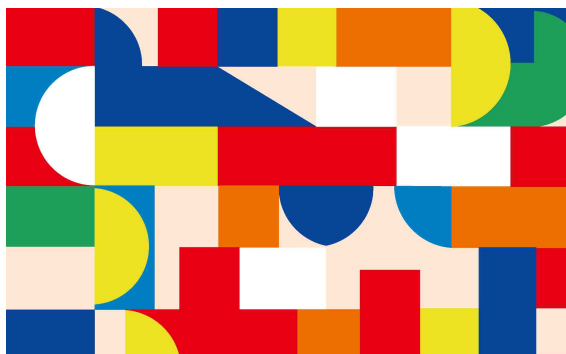
researchers and experts from the Programme Countries and the Neighbouring regions. The event focused on exploration of the topic of prevention of violent radicalization and presentation of good practices. During the conference comments and suggestions were collected for the draft version of the report from the study on good practices, that had a significant influence on its final shape.

The next step within the cooperation will be a cross-sectorial seminar "Building young people's resilience against violent radicalization in Albania" in November 2018, that will give a space for discussion and exchange of experiences and practice among participants. For 2019 training is planned for youth workers which focuses on development of competences useful at work with youth on the topic of prevention of violent radicalization. Finally most probably in autumn 2019 a study visit to Belgium will take place to explore existing practice in the area of youth work.

Summing up, both inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities as well as prevention of violent radicalization among youth are important topics in youth work and are therefore key interests of SALTO EECA. By delivering training activities and publications developed in cooperation with our partners we hope that we can meet

at least some of the needs of the youth workers in the EaP and Russia and provide them with useful tools and knowledge.

For the purpose of the research and the whole project we use the definition created by The Centre of the Prevention of Radicalisation Leading to Violence in Canada ([www.info-radical.org/en](http://www.info-radical.org/en)) which says that violent radicalization is "A process whereby people adopt an extremist belief system – including the intent to use, encourage or facilitate violence – in order to promote an ideology, a political project or a cause as a means of social transformation". Such radicalization would imply: "1) the adoption of an ideology whose rationale becomes a way of life and a framework for meaningful action for the individual; 2) the belief in the use of violent means to promote a cause; 3) the merging of ideology and violent action".



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**Check yourself on geography of Erasmus+ Programme and the Neighbouring Partner countries.**

**Level 1:** Can you name all the regions indicated on the map with different colours?

If so, you are already very advanced in Erasmus+!

**Level 2:** Can you name all the countries on the map?

If yes, not only Erasmus+, but your geography teacher is proud of you!

**Level 3:** Can you name all these countries' capitals?

Yes? Really? Definitely take part in Who wants to be a millionaire?!

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# Youth Work Erasmus+ Youth European Solidarity Corps Eastern Europe and the Caucasus



SALTO-YOUTH  
EASTERN EUROPE AND CAUCASUS  
RESOURCE CENTRE



Erasmus+

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