

YouTHelegraph

**EUROPEAN
VOLUNTARY
SERVICE
20
YEARS!**



**MEETING MY NEIGHBOUR
VIDEO CONTEST**



**REFUGEES
WELCOME!**



PROJECT CONTINUES!



**EVS IS HERE.
JUST REACH OUT
FOR IT!**

YouThelegraph

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Volunteering helps our environment and our community to be a better place. The European Voluntary Service (EVS) gives young people the opportunity to volunteer abroad. Anyone can join age between 17 and 30. There are different kind of opportunities, the difference is the cause the volunteers believe. The various activities could be supporting refugees, activities with children or elderly, organising events, helping and supporting organisations work and so many more. Activities could be realized within the framework of non-profit, non-governmental organizations, public institutions or companies.



There are short or long term projects the duration is 2 to 12 months. The volunteers receive support for their travel and living costs, also pocket money and insurance and

much more. Just some of the benefits : The young people could get their first experience in a helping environment. Volunteering in a foreigner country is a great way to meet new cultures and make new friends, learn new skills and get the first work experience in an intercultural community and also helps to learn how to work in a team. This environment helps to develop the communication skills and leadership abilities. During this 20 years almost 100 000 youngsters participate through the EVS.



The EVS started in 1996 and till 2000 it became so successful so it became the part of the YOUTH Programme, later on it was running under the Youth in Action programme and since 2014 with the ERASMUS+ programme. In 2015 during the ERASMUS+ project the 100 000th EVS volunteer got the opportunity to go abroad. That's why it was important to summarize the main rules.

This is how the EVS Charter was made where the core values and the quality standards are laid down.

While the 20 years around 5000 EVS accredited organisation are in the Volunteering Database. During this year the non-governmental organisations get an opportunity to share their result and implement and promote EVS with local events.



The background of the slide is a bokeh effect consisting of numerous overlapping circles of varying sizes. The colors transition from a deep purple on the left to a bright orange on the right. The circles have a soft, glowing appearance, with some being more opaque and others more transparent, creating a layered, dreamlike effect.

VOLUNTEERS

BEING A VOLUNTEER

Who wants a difference in their life? Sometimes you want to run away from your daily routines and doing something good and different. European Volunteer Service was the key for me to do this. I was interesting about helping people and exploring new since i was a child so i decided to have an EVS.

Hungary is always interesting for me because i think we have similar cultures and it is in the middle of the Europe so i can travel a lot. I decided to come Hungary. After a long travel to Ankara to Szeged I found myself in Szeged. I was tired and a bit worried but I met with my mentor other volunteers and they were really nice so i forgot how tired I am. The big they came and I went to my hosting organization Talentum. I was really excited because i was not sure about they will like me or not. But they are really hospitality and friendly people, they had a welcoming party for me and I felt at home.

Everything was perfect



I have a flat, good friends, good colleagues and Szeged is a really beautiful city. We talked about my tasks, I wanted to do activities, helping people, be a real volunteer.

Talentum is a really good place for that because they are always interested with you, and if you want they let you to make lots of activities. Days passed like minutes and now I am here more than 40 days. I can say that it worth's every second. Now I am close to the end but I t is sorry before coming here I was worry but now I don't want to leave, I have a new family here. But I can say that it is not end, it is a new beginning, I am better person more open minded, more cultural... I think that it is a great experience and everybody should try it.

Mert Toroslu

NESIL FEST SECOND ROUND

Our group project Nesil Fest—Volunteering for generations is continuing

We have new volunteers from Macedonia, Serbia, Slovakia, Romania and Spain.



Dzvezda, Slobodan, Milosh, Daniela and Jorge worked in three places in Kecioren Municipality in Ankara.

In clock tower they served tea and coffee, in Elderly house they organized different activities for the old people, they helped the staff and were actively involved in all activities there.

In Yunus Emre Kültür Merkezi they were helping in the daily kids center and joined the retired platform.



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NEW VOLUNTEER IN S&G'S FAMILY

05th of April we had new volunteer from Italy. Valeria is from Ala, near Verona and she just arrived in Ankara

She likes our city and in her opinion Ankara is just like any other modern European capital.

What are your expectations for your EVS for these 2 months?

I would like to meet people from different countries and experience the cultural diversities. It's not about working – it's about having the experience of exploring and discovering new places, people and adventures. I expect to be fully occupied and dive in the life and Turkish culture. It's not a 8 hour working day. Its full time of being involved in this new journey called EVS.



What are your first impressions about Ankara and Turkey?

When I arrived here I was feeling lost and a bit

confused. Ankara has a totally different culture than ours in Italy. Because of that, the first moments in Ankara were a little bit confusing, but now I am so excited to start my EVS! I feel like a little child, attracted by everything. I want to explore and get to know the people, the cousin, and the places. My dream is to travel as much as I can during these 2

months. I hope to learn a little bit Turkish so I can communicate with the local people more easily.



NEW VOLUNTEER IN S&G'S FAMILY



Her project was related to translation of Italian documents, but she was helping us in the office a lot.

During her EVS she visited Istanbul, Kayseri, Hattusha and Cappadocia.

For the two months that she spent in Ankara, she started giving Italian classes for beginners.

She was very active and she joined all of our activities.



During her last weeks in Ankara, she joined the project "Building bridges for refugee children" where volunteers are

making a school for refugee kids placed in Ankara. We were very happy to have her in our EVS family



TRIP TO HATTUSHA

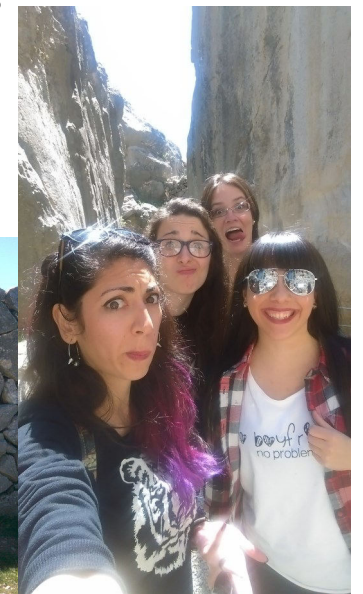
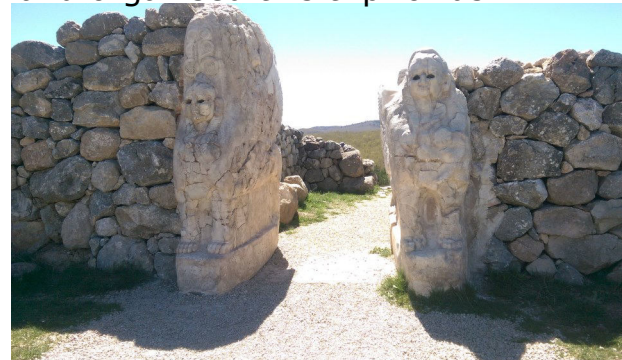
Our volunteer Adrienn Reti from Hungary shares her experience from a trip to Hattusa. In collaboration with Cankaya Municipality on the 22nd April our volunteers visited Hattusha. Hattusa was the capital of the Hittite Empire in the late Bronze Age. Hattusa was added to the UNESCO World Heritage list in 1986. The buildings we visited were made 13-14th century BC. It was amazing to walk between the remains of these ancient buildings. Also a wonderful environment surrounded Hattusa, really green area with tall old trees. Weather was warm and sunny we were really lucky. After Hattusa we went to visit Alacahöyük and the Bogazköy Museum. All together we had a lunch in a local restaurant where we could taste some of the

typical
Turkish
foods
köfte and
corba.



Summary : our way was long a bit but thanks for the brilliant organising we went in the morning and arrived home at the evening. We were all amazed of the

wonderful remains which was once the Hittite Empire. Anatolia is full of magical places to visit we hope to go more trip like that. Our company was awesome we came home really exhausted. At last we would like to say a big thanks for Suzanne from Cankaya municipality who managed and organised this trip for us.





PROJECTS



MEETING MY NEIGHBOUR CONTEST

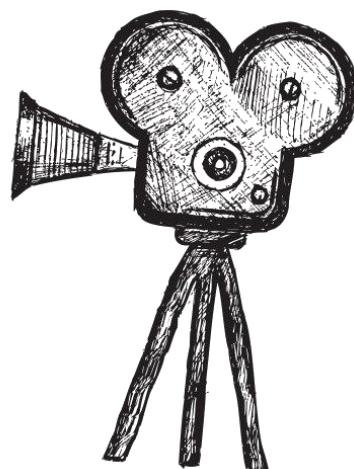
The Video

Competition is launched to concentrate on the importance of tolerance, breaking stereotypes, promoting mutual respect between neighbors. It is granted by Anna Lindh Foundation upon the submission of the project prepared by System and Generation Association.

The aim is to promote and increase mutual respect between the Turkish citizens and forced youth from diverse minorities who are tackling with social and cultural challenges by developing intercultural neighbor's dialogue with involvement of Network Members as partner from 3 major cities of Turkey - Eskisehir, Antalya and Ankara. Young people from all over Turkey have the chance to participate in this video competition

For the project, we created special webpage:

mmn.systemandgeneration.com



The submitted videos are viewed by jury, made of 4 representatives of the partner's organizations and 4 youngsters from the same organizations. They decide if the submitted videos are appropriate and which one deserves to win a prize.



In August, the best videos will be shown in the video festival "*Dialogue between Neighbors*" in the 3 partner cities: Ankara, Eskisehir and Antalya. Their creators will be invited to participate in the festivals. During the festivals we will organize workshops for the participants and guests.

Prizes for the winners are as follows:

3rd place: Participation in Youth Exchange / Training course with S&G

2nd place: Participation in YO!Fest in Strasbourg - 20-

1st place: Participation in ALF Forum in Malta in October.2016 (Awaiting confirmation from the partners)



MEETING MY NEIGHBOUR CONTEST



Winners

1. İlayda GÜMÜŞ
 2. Maja BAJRAMOVIC
 3. Muratcan BİLGİÇ
- Şehit Ayhan YILMAZ
Pınar HAKVERDİ

SEMINAR IN KAYSERI

Being part of S&G team we attended a symposium of I S Y E C (International Symposium on Youth Employment Challenges) in



Kayseri. There we attended many workshops and presentations which gave us new opportunities for development and self progress. All these ideas will help us to search for successful career and will change the wrong points of view during this important process. ISYEC organized an unforgettable event - meeting with people from 33 countries: volunteers. Inspiring people and mentors of selfhelp groups who were there to show us the right way to success. The host was AGU university and their AGU youth factory`s organization did perfect job. They welcomed us warmly and left in us great willing for coming back. Thanks to AGU University, ISYEC and S&G!

Adrienn Reti

The symposium offered us a huge vary of different topics of youth employment. We got a new view and useful advices about searching job. We enjoyed all the presentation, the speakers were awesome, we learned a lot. We met new people from different side of the world and it was interesting to discuss our experiences. We were treated really as a VIP members we had many fun. The last night a wonderful gala dinner was organised for us where we celebrated our participation and the succesfull symposium.

I feel soo lucky because I participated of this event and I'm really thankful for ISYAC for the possibility.

Tsvetomira Milanova



The background of the slide is a bokeh effect consisting of numerous out-of-focus circles in shades of yellow, orange, and gold. These circles vary in size and brightness, creating a warm, glowing atmosphere. The word "ACTIVITIES" is centered on the right side of the slide in a dark, bold, serif font.

ACTIVITIES

S&G AT EUROPEAN YOUTH EVENT 2016

On 20 and 21st of May S&G join the other 7500 participants of the European Youth Event in Strasbourg, France.

Our team was from 19 participants, including people with disabilities. Our disabled psychologist Ilknur PED-ER was there with her wheel chair, representing our country. She said that she was expecting much more disabled people in the event.



Gonca AKÇAER who gave information about "Engelli ve Yaşlı Dostu Teknolojik Ev" project's model. During one of her activities in the European Parliament met an astronaut who was in space for 7 months.



In our tent we presented "Engelli ve Yaşlı Dostu Ev" project, "Imagination Box" - where people had to put them selves into blind people shoes and describe an

item without being able to see it. World's first peace treaty cuneiforms, Kadash, EVS puzzle explaining the European Voluntary Service, "EngelsizFEST" activities.

Our tent in the event was next to the entrance of the European Parliament.



S&G AT EUROPEAN YOUTH EVENT 2016



Parallel to our activities we had a voting box where we asked the people "should Turkey has a visa?" Lots of people voted and shared their opinion.

Our Volunteers Alexandra, Selim, Carla, Nilüfer and Bledi gave information in our stand and also in the tent of the European Commission.



We also participated in the celebration of the EVS's 20th birthday. S&G president Gürkan AKÇAER gave information about our country's first big 'EngelsizFEST' EVS project.

Our volunteer Aleksandra presented our Large Scale EVS project in the EVS tent in front of many interested people. We created lots of beneficial contacts.



Our team is happy and proud to be part of this incredible event. See you next time EYE ;)

BUILDING BRIDGES FOR REFUGEE KIDS

Since the Syrian crisis started in 2011, Turkey has hosted over two million Syrian refugees, as well as additional asylum seekers from Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia and Iran. This number is expected to rise, especially among Syrian families. Half of the refugees coming



from Syria are children, however, according to the Human Rights Watch, more than 400,000 Syrian refugee children living in Turkey are not attending school.

The Turkish government adopted a policy in September of 2014 that formally grants Syrian children access to Turkish public schools, but key obstacles, including the language barrier, social integration issues, economic hardship, and lack of information about the policy continue to be a problem. Because of this, our main goal is the inclusion into society of these children and their families, by voluntarily teaching them Turkish as well as English.



Additionally we will concentrate on providing the needed support regarding clothes, medicines and other donations for the refugee families who are living in the Keçiören district

of Ankara. The Turkish government adopted a policy in September of 2014 that formally grants Syrian children access to Turkish public schools, but key obstacles, including the language barrier, social integration issues, economic hardship, and lack of information about the policy continue to be a problem. Because of this, our main goal is the inclusion into society of these children and their families,

by voluntarily teaching them Turkish as well as English.



BUILDING BRIDGES FOR REFUGEE KIDS



Who are We?

"Building Bridges for Refugee Children" is a project initiated by a multinational group of volunteers living in Ankara, Turkey, which aims to boost the inclusion of child refugees into the Turkish society by providing them with educational and recreational activities.



What are Our Objectives?

- Support children in socialisation.
- Increase awareness of the current situation, and teach the children how to respect the differences and diversity in their environment.
- Help the children to build self-confidence and try to help them overcome their personal psychological issues they may have developed.
- Improve and teach the children new skills and talents through creativity and imagination.
- Give the children hope and happiness and ultimately improve their way of life.
- Teach the children the norms of behaviour, solidarity with one another, tolerance, cooperation and respect.

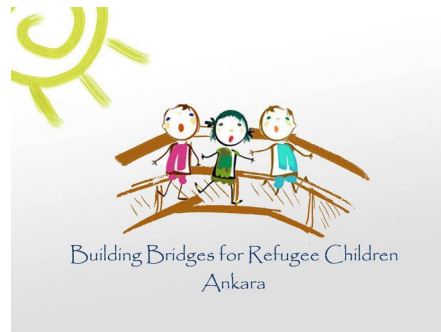
Why?

Due to the on-going war in Syria, and the delicate situations affecting many of the countries in this part of the world, a lot of families have left their homeland, and many children have had to abandon their schools and educations. In Keçiören there are a lot of refugee children who are not attending school, but instead are staying home with nothing to do. We wish to change this!



Building bridges for refugee children in Ankara initiative
 📧 bridges4refugees@gmail.com 📘 Building Bridges For Refugee Children

Additionally we will concentrate on providing the needed support regarding clothes, medicines and other donations for the refugee families who are living in the Keçiören district of Ankara.



Our volunteers from System and Generation Association are joining the project activities very actively. Every Friday and Saturday they help the refugee kids learn new things, they play games and made handcrafts with them.



EVS INFO DAYS

We love EVS! I mean, who doesn't ? That's why our volunteers Adrienn, Valeria and Laura started a campaign about giving more information and including people into our big EVS family. We started small—from universities in Ankara all the way to Konya.

With the help of our friends we organized this events in the biggest halls of the universities where lots of young and interested people joined us.

They were very active, asking lots of questions and were very happy that they had this opportunity to get more information about EVS and Erasmus+ programme.



We visited Gazi university, Hacatepe university and Selcuk university in Konya.

Our boss Gurkan Akcaer and EVS coordinator—Sezgin Cambasoglu attend as well and presented our organization. This gave us more connections and possible future partnerships.

