

YouTHelegraph

Say merhaba to our new volunteers:
Fio, Emmy, Sara & Dario

Ankara, June 2018

 **SYSTEM
& GENERATION**

HAPPY Youthpass IULIA!

We departed Iulia to Romania
and welcomed new volunteers
from: Spain, Macedonia, &
Bulgaria.

Issue No. 23



HI I'M FIORELLA,

BUT YOU CAN CALL ME FIO!



BORN IN PERU. LIVING IN SPAIN. VOLUNTEERING IN TURKEY.

I'M HOPING TO BECOME A BETTER PERSON, OPEN MY MIND TO NEW THINGS AND ACCEPTANCE. I WANT TO MAKE MY VALUES STRONGER THROUGH RESPONSIBILITY AND LEADERSHIP, SO I CAN CONTINUE MY GROWTH AND KEEP ENJOYING ALL THE THINGS THAT LIFE IS GIVING ME!

I want to share with you a little bit about my story and how I end up being here. I was born in Lima, Perú. In this big country in South America, so my main language is Spanish and I learned English through watching TV series and movies, but also school helped a little bit. So, I lived in Lima all my life, but I didn't like it so much, I was growing professionally in something that I didn't enjoy but knew how to do. Until one day I realize that I could travel because I was ready to discover new things. So, I lived in Lima all my life, but I didn't like it so much, I was growing professionally in something that I didn't enjoy but knew how to do. Until one day I realize that I could travel because I was ready to discover new things. So in August 14th of 2017 I started my Eurotrip and left everything behind me to start the search of my new life, I wanted to know what I wanted to do in life, so I did. I grab all my 4 years' savings and started travelling. It wasn't easy at the beginning of course, but then life surprised me with good people, amazing places and a lot of different cultures that keep surprising me every day.



It was in October that I started living in Barcelona, then I started working and making my "adult life", I didn't have any clothes for winter you know, Lima is never below the 15 degrees Celsius, so I literally started over. After a few months of inner thinking and outer living, I realized that I wanted to study something to help people with their own fears, so I will be starting my Psychotherapy and Holistic Healing formation in October. Having all this confidence to travel by myself and all that knowledge helped me to overcome fears and just socialize with people that I have never imagined before, so one day I was looking for volunteering web pages and I found Fundación Catalunya Voluntaria (Volunteers of Catalunya Foundation) they offered a lot of volunteering trips in different parts of Europe, so I decided to apply for this EVS project in Ankara and after a few months they accept me on it. So now I'm here, I just got to Turkey and in this few days I can say that I already meet very nice people, loved the town and the cultural differences and I'm grateful and happy for the opportunity to keep helping people and continue learning from them.

EMMY FROM

Hi everyone, my name is Emmy and I'm from Bulgaria, but I live for 2 years in the UK. I was a professional basketball player but now I work as a waitress and I think I will start doing what makes me happy again. Now I'm in Ankara from 1 month ago and I cannot understand how fast time gone and I never thought I'd come here because I just did not like Ankara I was to Izmir, Kusadasi , Dicle, Cesme, Istanbul, Erzincan, Tunceli, Bursa, Amasra and more places I do not remember of now. I want to emphasize that this is my first EVS and I am very happy for this I never thought I could have fun with strangers at first for me people but after a while I got to know them a lot I learned from them and I think it will help me very much and also my unforgettable memories with them as our holiday in Amasra... I can not describe it should be seen but if everyone will have the chance to meet such friends is not known.



WHAT DO I DO IN ANKARA?

I want to tell a little about the work, I like to teach little children in English and some of them do not even know the names (in Bulgaria it's a joke) to play with them and watch them have fun to be a kid again, I'm also very happy to go to Elderly House there we prepare very nice things for them and if we have time to get to meet the old people, the other thing I like in this project is the Clock Tower people there are so nice and fun that's why I never want leave from there, teach us to make Turkish coffee and Turkish tea too and serve and meet new people and tell them about Bulgaria and us relate very nice course not only they but all very well relate with us. I think this month has given me a lot to understand what I want from life and what I will never forget...





The Unbroken Dream for Turkey ❤️

Dear stranger, my name is Dario (18 years old) and I am coming from Macedonia. Sometimes I feel like a multitasking machine - always under the term, quality > quantity. Memnun oldum! I am writing this article with high excitement about my 2-month EVS placement in S&G. Why so excited? Because "Sonsuza dek kalbimde Türkiye!"

If you ask me where this unconditionally love comes from, believe me I don't know either. I guess it is a spiritual love that's been born during my first touch with its soil, back in 2007. Even with bound eyes I would feel the unique aura of Turkey. My mom often jokes me with the following sentence: God knows with whom your great-grandma "engaged" during the ottoman empire. *smile*

The real treasure actually is my hosting organisation, System & Generation that I bet you already heard a lot for its efforts in advocacy for stronger and happier community. Since the very first moment when I arrived here in Ankara, I already felt as a part of the family. They equipped me with everything that is necessary for my flawless contribution during my service and I am truly grateful for that.



**"FROM ŞİŞ KEBAP &
KAYMAK TO MUSTAFA
SANDAL."**

Surprisingly, there is an incredible space of flexibility about the way I conduct the activities in the project. Everyday I work in a different and diverse environment, the Mondays I enjoy in the Clock Tower while preparing Turkish Tea for the locals, Tuesdays and Thursdays are with an eye on the "bugs" and "butterflies" in the Turkish-American Kindergarten, and lastly but not least Fridays are dedicated for the Elderly House in Keçiören where I engage with its beneficiaries and play my most favorite board game "Tavla". 2-months are not short as they seem to be and there are plenty of things that can be done, of course if they are planned smartly. I cannot wait to see what is upcoming the next month!



This is our Gabi from Romania! 🇷🇴

Hi, I am Gabi, from Romania and I am an EVS volunteer. I have no idea how many times I have said this sentence to all the people that I have met in the last 5 months!

Here I am at the middle of my [EVS](#), a period full of intense emotions, laughing and crying, all kind of activities and workshops - working with children and with elderly, promoting [Erasmus+](#) programs in schools and universities, attending cultural events, connecting with so many new people, learning from their experience and least but not last traveling all around Turkey.

I have to say that is not always easy - not being able to understand the language, the cultural shock, sharing apartment with so many people with different habits, but that is also a part of [EVS](#) – learning how to adapt and solve the problems, explore and discover.



"We work together, share our experience and knowledge and learn from each other. I have new friends for life maybe."

I have met a lot of people from so many different countries like Bulgaria, Italy, Spain, Peru, Macedonia, who made a great part of this experience so far.

Besides the work we do together, there is also my favorite part, the traveling. We had a lot of great adventures so far and created so many good memories. We have ridden camels in the magical lands of Cappadocia, had checked all the points from "top things to do" list in Istanbul, had a real mussels treat in Izmir and had a long relaxing walk in the historical areas of Beypazari.

So what this experience taught me so far? People come and people go so I have to live and appreciate every moment and make the most of it, I have learned tolerance, acceptance, mutual understanding, I have discovered new skills and interests that I did not notice in myself before and I have strong desire to improve myself more and more.

MEET SARA



Hello my name is Sara Mitevska and I'm 19 years old and I come from Macedonia. I am here for my two months EVS project in Ankara, Turkey. I come from Macedonia and I am a university student at the Department of History Of Art, Faculty of Philosophy in Skopje.

"This first month couldn't have gone better."

This is my first time in Turkey and so far I like it here. I didn't expect it to be so beautiful and wonderful. I met new people who have big experience and they thought me so many new things and how [EVS](#) can be the best thing that can happen to you. And I was hoping to experience and to learn about Turkish culture and language and I did but still I have a lot more to see and learn.

I also traveled outside Ankara and inside and all I can say is that this the perfect place for my first [EVS](#). I am hoping that my second month will also be happy and lucky as the first one!



I had the chance to work with children who are in kindergarten and interact with them, play and have fun. Some of them knew English so it was even more fun to work and play with them. In the elderly house, we had to come up with ideas and to interact with elderly people and also help them in the workshops.