**“Sport Unites, Racism Divides”**

4th September – 14th September 2017

Taevaskoja, Estonia

**Project information**

The refugee crisis in Europe has increased the discussions about racism, because refugees who are running from war zones to Europe are found difficult to integrate into the European society due to the intolerance of the local population. Our young people are heavily influenced by their parents' opinions, and so there will be a so-called vicious circle of intolerance, which will continue endlessly. We want to understand what racism is and how we can combat it. In everyday life, we can see and / or hear about how people who don’t belong to the same nation as us, have to suffer under intolerant behaviour from locals. This is a problem for us, because if this hate is planted into our youngsters who are the future of our society, it means that racist behaviour towards foreigners continues and our society will be divided in the future.

Project "Sport Unites, Racism Divide" is expected:

- To increase awareness of what is racism and what are the consequences of racist activities.

- To find activities which resulted in growing tolerance.

- To find solutions on how to behave in a situation where we see racist conduct.

- To analyze how the sport has helped people connect and find good examples of possible solutions, which we can use in our everyday lives and in our communities.

- To improve positive attitude towards others and in participants towards themselves. Project involves young people with fewer opportunities, so we expect to increase the participants' horizons and willingness to communicate with different people, whatever their background is, because in reality we are all equal and deserve equal treatment.

- The promotion of mutual cooperation and thereby teamwork skills. The project will operate mostly young international teams and develop teamwork skills, simultaneously with the tolerance and self-expression skills.

In this youth exchange project there will be 38 participants from seven countries (Estonia, Turkey, Greece, Spain, Italy, Cyprus and Bulgaria).

Project “Sport Unites, Racism Divides” is funded from Erasmus+ Estonian National Agency. There is no participation fee, project covers food and accommodation and also travel expences (see below).

Project is organised by Noorte Ettevõtlikkuse Arendamise Ühing (Youth Entrepreneurship Development Association) which is a non-profit organization established in early 2014, aimed

at the youth entrepreneurship development and support of the after school and work activities (including international youth projects).

**Project Venue**

Project will take place in Taevaskoja village, accommodation will be in Taevaskoja Puhkekeskus (<http://www.taevaskoja.ee/>) and there are rooms for two and three persons.

Taevaskoja is a small village in South-Estonia. There are 2 options how you will get there. You can choose between:

1. You can land to Tallinn (the capital of Estonia) and you will get a bus or train from there to Tartu. Busride/train takes around 2 hours. The buses are driving really often, you can check the timetable <http://www.tpilet.ee/soiduplaan/tallinn/tartu> . Trains are driving few times in a day, you can check the timetable <https://pilet.elron.ee/Schedule?from=Tallinn&to=Tartu&date=30.06.2016>
2. The second chance is to land to Riga (the capital of Latvia) and you will get a bus from there to Tartu. Busride takes around 2–3 hours. You can check the buses timetable <http://www.tpilet.ee/soiduplaan/riga-coach-station/tartu?Scope=All&Date=06-29-2016&Transfer=None> .

After we have received the travel information from all participants we will let you know how you can reach to Taevaskoja from Tartu.

**Note**: Organisers will not provide any accommodation for additional stay in Estonia. If participants plan to arrive a few days earlier or depart a few days later they are kindly requested to inform us and we will be glad to offer assistance with booking a hotel.

**Our Project will start at 4th evening and will end at 14th morning. Please arrive to Tartu before 17:00 on 4th of September. Plan your leaving for the 14th of September not earlier.**

**About daily program we will inform you when we have the list of your participants.**

**Weather**

The weather in September in Estonia can be warm and sunny or cold and rainy. You can expect temperatures between -5 to +10 degrees. Take suitable clothes for cold and rain. Also bring suitable clothes for sports and outdoor activities.

**What to Bring?**

We kindly ask you to bring:

* Clear information (in English, if possible) about the main activities of your organisation, so that you can present it at the information gallery during the exchange. Please be aware that your presentation will brief.
* Maps, posters, postcards about your country/region/town to be displayed during the project.
* Some gastronomic specialities (food and/or drinks) for the International Evening. There will be 7 countries and 38 participants.

Also each country’s participants team has to organise one workshop. We will inform you about the workshop’s topics when we have the list of your participants. Workshop doesn’t have to be long and difficult, it should be informative and active. So, participants don’t have to worry about the workshop too much.

**Reimbrusment**

Participants’ travel costs from their home city to Taevaskoja, Estonia will be reimbursed (find travel costs below). According to the rules of Erasmus+ program, and in order to comply with environmental standards, we kindly ask all participants to take the most environmentally friendly and cost effective alternative available.

**Note**: Reimbursement of travel costs will only be done upon presentation of all (including return tickets) original tickets, receipt/invoices and boarding passes. This means that once home after the youth exchange, participants will be asked to send the originals of all return documents and boarding passes. Please remember to bring the original invoices – there will be no reimbursement without the original invoices and tickets with indicated names of travellers, description of the journey, indication of cost and currency and date of travel.

**Note**: Reimbursement will be done in EUR, regardless of the currency indicated on the ticket and receipt/invoice. Any tickets purchased in a local currency other than EUR, will then be converted and calculated according to the exchange rate of the month when the grant agreement for this project will be signed by the NA, as stated in the official European Commission web-site at ec.europa.eu/budget/inforeuro/index.cfm?Language=en

**Note**: Finally, please make copies (or even better, scan or take photographs) of all tickets and invoices and email these to **neaorganisation@gmail.com** before attending the youth exchange. This will be very helpful to organisers to begin processing the financial and reimbursement data so that all payments may be made as efficiently as possible.

The following only applies to participants **travelling by plane**:

Please RESERVE the tickets, but DO NOT BUY them before consulting with the organisers.

**Visa arrangements**

Estonia is in EU, so EU countries don’t need visa to visit Estonia. If you need visa it is covered from project’s funding, so if you do need visa let the organisers know and they will gladly help you.

**Participants and travel costs**

Turkey: **Kuresel Aktiviteler Dernegi**, 4 participants aged 18–27 + 1 Leader (can be any age). Project will cover maximum 275 EUR of travel expences.

Cyprus: **NEOLEA GIA ANTALAGI KAI KATANOISI**, 4 participants aged 18–27 + 1 Leader (can be any age). Project will cover maximum 360 EUR of travel expences.

Bulgaria: **Detsa na Balkanite**,4 participants aged 18–27 + 1 Leader (can be any age). Project will cover maximumum 275 EUR of travel expences.

Italy: **ASSOCIAZIONE INTERCULTURALE NUR**, 4 participants aged 18–27 + 1 Leader (can be any age). Project will cover maximum 360 EUR of travel expences.

Spain: **Jarit Asociación Civil**, 4 participants aged 18–27 + 1 Leader (can be any age). Project will cover maximum 360 EUR of travel expences.

Greece: **KINONIKI SINETAIRISTIKI EPICHERISIELLINIKI SYMMETOCHI NEON**, 4 participants aged 18–27 + 1 Leader (can be any age). Project will cover maximum 360 EUR of travel expences.

Please try to find participants from both genders (male, female). This is important for gender equality. Also try to find few participants with fewer opportunities (unemployed, living rural areas). **Please make sure that participants will understand and are able to speak English as this is our working language and also that they can participate the project 100%** (not arriving later or leaving earlier).

If you have any questions about the project please feel free to contact the project coordinator and/or project manager.

**PROJECT COORDINATOR:**

**Egert Mitt**

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