

ESC project code: 2023-1-CY02-ESC51-VTJ-000147581





LEARNING LEAGUE IN A PAGE!

The project aims to highlight nonformal education, youth work, enhance youth participation and competencies and skills for lifelong learning.

The project duration is 12 months, starting in July 2024.

The project is implemented by YEU Cyprus based in Nicosia, Cyprus.

Accommodation, internet, and utility bills (to a max. limit) are covered.

Food allowance and monthly pocket money.

Travel costs reimbursed based on distance calculator.

INTRODUCTION

Dear future volunteers,

We are looking forward to receiving your applications! Please read the following information carefully to prepare for your time in Cyprus.

You will be among fellow volunteers from different countries. This will give you an opportunity to exchange opinions, share experiences and learn from people from diverse backgrounds. The volunteering experience in Cyprus will be a chance to gain new experiences and learn along the way.

Through this project, you will have the opportunity to enhance the 8 key competencies for lifelong learning as these are being highlighted by EU policies and guidelines. But let's take things from the beginning.



YEU CYPRUS

Youth for Exchange and Understanding Cyprus (YEU Cyprus) is a non-profit, independent youth NGO based in Nicosia, that works dosely with young people aiming to empower them in realizing the societies they want to be living in. We implement a number of projects and carry out a variety of activities on non-formal education both locally and transnationally, with a focus on active citizenship, human rights, sustainability, inclusion, cultural exchange and understanding.

Our organization is dedicated to advocating for the rights of young individuals, nurturing their potential to emerge as influential contributors to society. We are committed to fostering a culture of engagement and empowerment, both within our immediate community and extending far beyond the borders of Cyprus.

For more information, visit our website.



ACTIVITIES OF YEU CYPRUS

Our work extends beyond the surface; we're committed to thorough research and mapping endeavors. These efforts contribute to a wealth of insightful publications and multimedia materials that we produce.

At the heart of our approach is a dedication to non-formal education. We harness the power of experiential learning to fuel youth development, foster awareness, and build essential capacities. This drive is fueled by our core areas of focus: human rights, sustainable development, intercultural education, and youth participation.

We specialize in a range of activities, including organizing and facilitating workshops, conducting training courses, and orchestrating dynamic youth exchanges.

For more information, visit our website.

CONTACT INFORMATION



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EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS (ESC)

The European Solidarity Corps (ESC) brings together young people to build a more inclusive society, supporting vulnerable people and responding to societal challenges. It offers an inspiring and empowering experience for young people who want to help, learn and develop.

ESC participants carry with them ideas, convictions, and expectations. The participating organizations have to be mindful of these needs as they are responsible for providing a respectful and trusting hosting environment. At the same time, the organizations participating in the initiative devote a great deal of time, energy, and resources to set up a high-quality activity; they should therefore expect that European Solidarity Corps participants show a similar level of respect for the local communities and the people that are directly concerned by the activities.

For more information, please visit here.







BENEFITS OF BEING AN ESC VOLUNTEER

Skill Development:

- Enhancing self-management and work-related skills
- Improving communication skills
- Enhancing interpersonal skills
- Fostering team spirit and collaboration

Work Experience:

- Gaining experience in decision-making and problemsolving
- Engaging in diverse learning opportunities, including working in diverse teams and collaborating with different stakeholders
- Accessing leadership development programs
- Building specialization and expertise to enhance your resume and broaden your career prospects
- Stimulating creativity and enhancing independence
- Broadening cultural awareness



LEARNING LEAGUE



The Learning League project is a 12-month long ESC project which aims to intergrate and improve different forms of learning, equipping young people for the challenges of today's world. The project will highlight Youth Goal 8 of "Quality Learning" as well as Sustainable Development Goals, especially SDG 4 which aims to "ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all".

The main objectives of the project are to:

- Promote the recognition of non-formal learning by advocating through different actions and organising training activities for youth workers and people who work with youth.
- Enhance skills and competences relevant to life-long learning through highlighting educational opportunities
- Promote critical thinking, open-mindedness and intercultural dialogue
- Organizing activities to encourage youth participation



SAMPLE ACTIVITIES/ACTIONS

During the 12 months of the project, the volunteers will plan, organize and implement the following:

- Workshops about lifelong learning
- Advocacy campaigns on quality education and policy making
- Non-formal education activities
- Campaigns on Youth Goal 8 and SDG 4
- Stuctured dialogue with local authorities
- Networking events with different local stakeholders
- Support the organisation in educational projects
- Contribute to the 20th Anniversary events of the organisation which will highlight the importance of youth work
- Create a monthly newsletter to inform readers about relevant topics, trends and good practices



WORKING HOURS



ESC is a full-time volunteering service. The activities of the project (including any language courses, trainings and the volunteers' personal development) should be in between 35 to 38 hours per week (around 7 hours per day). In case of extra work, the volunteers will recover the hours in the same month and these should not be replacing vacation leave. Although events are avoided on the weekend, in any case of working on a weekend, the volunteers have the right to take another day off in the same week or, if this is not possible due to workload, within the month. The volunteer is entitled to two days off per month.

EU LANGUAGE ACADEMY (OLS)

The volunteers will be able to:

- Learn Greek online, or with live lessons.
- Engage with locals and practice Greek in everyday situations.
- Explore the local culture that is connected with language.

FINANCI AL SUPPORT

- Travel expenses to and from Cyprus will be covered in accordance with the distance calculator.
- Every volunteer will receive 155 Euros for monthly food allowance and 6 Euros a day for pocket money.
- Accommodation and utilities will be provided by YEU Cyprus.
- A bicycle can be given as mean of transportation.
- All project-related expenses (such as traveling to other cities) is reimbursed if receipts are submitted.
- Some sending organisations require a membership fee. This fee is not refundable.

TRAVELING BUDGET



As Cyprus is an island, green travel isn't applicable. The only way to reach Cyprus is by plane. However, we encourage green travel to and from airports. Each volunteer has an allowance for the travel expenses based on the ESC guide's distance calculator. The amount of distance calculator covers from your city to Cyprus and from Cyprus back to your city. Any amount exceeded, will be covered by your personal budget.

Please note that reimbursements are only eligible to the two airports recognized by the Republic of Cyprus (Pafos and Lamaca). Flights to and from ERCAN airport are not eligible for reimbursement. Reimbursement covers, flights and any means of public transportation (taxi/cars only in exceptional cases).

Travel by bus in Cyprus: There are shuttle buses from the two airports (Lamaca and Paphos) to Nicosia. These are operated by Kapnos Airport Shuttle. During the day, intercity buses are also available, however, there may be delays/issues with the connecting buses to the station. In general, we suggest your arrival hours to be early in the day and not during the night hours as this might result in a layover at the airport due to the lack of transportation during night time.

The travelling needs proofs of boarding passes/receipts and hence all the related papers must be kept for the reimbursment.

- ESC Eligible travel budget: www.erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/resourcesand-tools/distance-calculator
- Kapnos airport shuttle: www.kapnosairportshuttle.com
- Lamaca (LCA)and Nicosia buses:
 www.publictransport.com.cy/routes/page/routes-and-timetables
- Pafos (PFO) buses: www.pafosbuses.com/busroutes
- Intercity buses: www.intercity-buses.com/en



ACCOMMODATION



- It will be a mixed-gender accommodation, if needed, same-gender roommates will be placed in shared rooms.
- Electricity, internet and water bills are covered by the organization.
 There are maximum consumption amounts set. Please note that in case that amount is exceeded, volunteers will be requested to cover the extra costs.
- The accommodation are in a very good state and you will be asked to keep them in such, through a weekly cleaning schedule. In case of damages due to negligence, the volunteers will have to cover the costs. Your well-being at the apartments and their state will be checked through monthly visits.
- The accommodation are within walking distance from services, supermarkets, bakeries, and coffee shops. There is easy access to the city centre through public transportation (10 minutes) or cycling (15 minutes), while our premises are just 40 minutes walk from the accommodation.
- Sheets, linens and blankets are provided.
- The apartment kitchen is fully equipped with necessary utensils, pots, dishes and cutteries.
- Any other personal purchases regarding life at the apartment (such as extra kitchen utensils, adaptors, and interior decorations) are of a personal cost.



HEALTH INSURANCE

- All the volunteers are registered with HENNER INSURANCE before arrival.
- Volunteers will also receive from the sending organization information about the coverage and the procedure of HENNER INSURANCE.
- Volunteers must have a European Health Insurance Card card with them given by their national provider.
- The emergency number is 112.
- Possible registration to the national health system.
- YEU Cyprus takes seriously any special needs or assistance towards specialized health treatment. Feel free to discuss any of your needs with us.





- Should be over 18 years old.
- Must have the necessary competencies and motivation to work with people coming from different backgrounds and with different interests.
- Are open-minded to people from different cultures, religions, and sexualities, and are open to new experiences in a diverse environment.
- Should have the willingness to learn new things
- Preferably have relevant background, knowledge, or passion about the theme but diversity in the group is also appreciated.
- Must be willing to work with flexible schedules, teamwork, collaborations working with children, traveling, etc.
- Can adapt easily and are willing to work collaboratively as they will need to creatively engage with the theme.
- Are English speakers with advanced abilities in engaging with other English-speaking speakers.
- Are flexible in sharing accommodation with other volunteers (some volunteers may have to share a room).
- Are aware that the volunteering opportunity is a learning experience rather than a vacation.
- Participants from any European Solidarity Corps partner-countries are welcome to apply!
- You may check eligibility by clicking <u>here</u>.





"My overall experience has been great. Before Cap the Gap I had been pretty much working non-stop and overworking in an abusive work environment. I've wanted to do a long-term ESC and the timing was perfect. The project itself offered a great balance between being productive/doing something of value and having a break. I think one of the best things it offered me was the opportunity to have a break without stopping work, which is what a workaholic often needs but has a hard time finding."

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ANAOL

GABRIELLE

"Knowing different cultures, dealing with new uses and new ways of life, cooperating with people from all over Europe, and knowing people from all over the word is a great occasion to verify how much a person is open-minded and grows up as an individual."

OSCAR

"New skills are growing in me and the old ones have been reinforced. Mission Tradition is being, in just a word, amazing."

LIFE IN CYPRUS

Cyprus is a beautiful island in the Eastern Mediterranean Sea very close to Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, and Egypt. The cultural diversity in Cyprus is vast which can be observed in Nicosia, the capital, where YEU CYPRUS is located and especially within the old walled city. It is a kaleidoscopic blend: its cultural influences are dominated by Western Europe, but its geographic proximity to Asia and Africa gives it more than just a hint of the East. Cyprus is known for its sunny days all year round, despite temperatures, and its friendly atmosphere! The people of Cyprus are warmhearted, hospitable, and kind. The majority of young people, enjoy a night around the city and appreciate a good company.



- The currency used in Cyprus is the Euro.
- The official languages of the RoC are Greek, Turkish, and English.
- Cyprus has 300-340 days of sunny weather. The average temperature in winter is around 13-15°C, and 30-33°C, in summer.
- Cyprus is highly multicultural with various religions and communities!

WELCOME TO NICOSIA!

Nicosia is the capital city of the island. The old part of the city is surrounded by walls that were build by the Venetians in the mid-16th century. The city is the last divided capital in the world. There are checkpoints within the walled city in which people can show their ID and cross to the northern part of the island or vice versa.

Nicosia is the cultural core of the island with museums, various architectural styles and many other elements which showcase the diverse history of the island. Also, Nicosia is the hub for many customs and cultures that have been brought by people who migrated to Cyprus. There are people from various backgrounds who permanently reside in Cyprus, so you will hear various languages such as Greek, Turkish, English, Russian, Arabic, Romanian, Bulgarian and many more.

Each volunteer will be assigned a mentor to provide support in adjusting to life in Cyprus.



COMMUNICATION & SOCIAL LIFE

Making phonecalls:

In order to make a phone call to Cyprus from abroad, dial 00357 or +357 and then the eight-digit phone number. If you wish to make a phone call abroad while in Cyprus, dial 00 or +, followed by the country code and the telephone number. The organization will not provide SIM cards but for work-related phonecalls, the office phone will be used. Usually your country plans are covering your staying here in Cyprus under the EU regulation 'Roaming like home'. Please advice your network provider before coming to Cyprus, as communication with their service support here might not be possible. More on Roaming like home:

https://europa.eu/youreurope/citizens/consumers/internet-

telecoms/mobile-roaming-costs/index_en.htmM

Events and Social life:

Throughout the year there are many events happening on the island such as public holidays and cultural celebrations. There are also multiple music festivals taking place in the summer. You may find various workshops, events and activities that take place throughout the year through social media or websites such as:

https://cyprus.wiz-guide.com/ https://in-cyprus.com/ https://www.qppstudio.net/public-holidays/cyprus.htm

APPLICATION LOGISTICS

To apply for the Learning League project:

- 1. Send your CV to esc@yeucyprus.org.
- 2. Fill in the application form online <u>here</u>. (please make sure to use the same contact details in your application form and your CV).
- 3. Once you complete these steps, you will enter our recruitment process. When the pre-evaluations of the applications are completed, successful candidates will be invited to an online interview. Based on the number of applications, we kindly ask you to be patient.







